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TOWN OF SHARON

2020 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

With Report & Recommendations of the Finance Committee

Monday, October 12, 2020
1:00pm
Sharon High School Football Field
(outdoors, under a tent)
181 Pond Street

Registered voters are asked to bring this report to the meeting for use in the proceedings

Registered voters planning to attend Town Meeting needing an ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreter are asked to call the Town Clerk's Office at 781-784-1500 x1201 at least one week in advance of the meeting

Learn more and ask questions about the business to be conducted at Town Meeting at the
VIRTUAL PRE-TOWN MEETING FORUM
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 AT 7:00PM

A Virtual Pre-Town Meeting Forum will take place via Zoom virtual meeting technology. The purpose of this virtual forum is to give voters an opportunity to learn more about each warrant article, to ask questions, and to be able to gather more information to help inform your vote before the October 12 Town Meeting as much as possible so that the meeting can be conducted in the safest and most efficient manner. Residents may access this meeting as follows:

Via the internet:	**https://us04web.zoom.us/**
Via phone:	**1-929-205-6099, 1-312-626-6799, or 1-346-248-7799**
Meeting ID:	**584-648-7446**
Password:	**02067**

This information is also available on the Town website at www.townofsharon.net

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Sharon Community Television covers government meetings.
The meetings are on Channel 22 and are posted on their website.
To view the schedule or to watch online, visit www.sharontv.com

IMPORTANT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Public health, public safety and other municipal and school officials are working together to ensure the necessary precautions are incorporated into all aspects of Town Meeting.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate these unusual set of circumstances.

Face Coverings/Masks
All those attending or working/participating at Town Meeting MUST wear face coverings/masks at all times.

Pre-Entry Health Check
Anyone who is ill or experiencing cold symptoms should not attend Town Meeting and should stay home and contact their primary care physician. A questionnaire is printed below for individuals to assess their health prior to entering the Town Meeting area.

Parking
Parking is available in front of the high school, the student lot across Pond Street and in the temporary parking lot to the north of the main high school parking lot.

Check-In Procedure
Voters shall approach the check-in tent and line up in the separated check-in lines. While in line, voters will stand at the 6-foot markings.

Once a voter is checked-in, they will be handed a brightly colored card. This card will serve two purposes. One, the voter will hold up their card when voting, to make it easier for counters to see in the tents. Two, should the voter need to leave the area after checking-in, when they return the card will identify their checked-in status.

All those working at the check-in tables will wear gloves. There will be a clear divider between voters and those working at the check-in tables. Antibacterial hand sanitizer will be at the check-in tables.

Social/Physical Distancing
All attendees, workers and participants at Town Meeting, when not seated, are to follow physical distancing guidelines and provide at least 6 feet of space between themselves and others.

- There will be directional pathways to manage the flow of foot traffic and to minimize contact (e.g., one-way entrance and exits, one-way pathways). These will be clearly visible and should be followed.
- There will be limited seating together for two individuals living in the same household; once that seating has been taken, all others must sit in seating as configured; PLEASE DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.
- Once checked in, please move straight to the seating for Town Meeting and remain in your seat.

Signage
Signage will be posted throughout the grounds that will explain physical distancing and face covering protocols.

Food/Water & Hand Sanitizer
Attendees are encouraged to bring their own water and snacks, as well as their own hand sanitizer. There is a "carry in – carry out" policy in effect.

Restroom Facilities
Two portable restroom facilities will be onsite in the parking lot near voter check-in.

Departure from Town Meeting
Once Town Meeting has concluded, areas will be dismissed in sections to prevent a large crowd gathering.

Mosquito Repellent Protocols
Attendees should apply mosquito repellent, if they wish, before they arrive at Town Meeting.

Children
No one under the age of 18 is permitted.

Motions
Motions are being printed in this year's Warrant to help expedite the proceedings. They are subject to change and final motions will be read aloud during the meeting.

COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

Please review the screening questions below prior to your arrival at Town Meeting. These questions are for your own use. **IF YOU REPLY YES TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS, WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO NOT ATTEND.** Please stay home if you are feeling unwell. This is for your safety and others.

Do you currently or recently have had:

- Temperature above 100.4° Fahrenheit?
- Atypical shortness of breath?
- Unusual fatigue?
- Atypical dry cough?
- Atypical runny/stuffy nose?
- Atypical sore or irritated throat?
- Vomiting/diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain?
- Atypical headache or muscle aches?
- Loss of sense of smell or taste?

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings in anticipation of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting. I hope that you and your family are healthy and remain safe.

The unprecedented circumstances resulting from the State of Emergency in response to containing spread of COVID-19 has provided numerous challenges to all of us and has thus compelled everyone to adjust our lives. In an effort to balance the need to convene our annual Town Meeting, conduct the town's legislative business and minimize the risk of exposure to the virus, we have had to initiate a number of measures which will make this year's meeting unique. Please know that a great deal of time and thought has gone into the planning for this Town Meeting - the ultimate goal of which has been to provide a safe forum for Sharon voters to debate and vote on the items on the Warrant. With that understanding, I would urge everyone who attends this year to be prepared, patient and respectful of town officials and fellow voters.

The most obvious change this year is the timing and location of the meeting. The meeting will be called to order on Monday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m. outdoors on the high school football field. Specific safety protocols to minimize the potential for community spread include seating that follows social distancing, wearing of face coverings at all times, and self-certifying your health status at voter check-in as a prerequisite for participation. To be clear: No one will be admitted unless he or she is wearing a mask at all times.

In Sharon, Town Meeting is open to any registered voter to attend, participate in debate and vote. In furtherance of the twin goals of providing a forum for informative debate on each article, but utilizing techniques that enhance the efficiency of consideration and disposition of the Town's business, there will be some changes to the procedure for participants:

First: We will be limiting the presentations during the meeting. In order to provide additional information to voters we have included the intended motion as well as some information that would normally be presented by article sponsors within the Warrant so we can move quickly to debate. Additionally, in coordination with the Finance Committee, we will be having an expanded Pre-Town Meeting forum which will be conducted virtually on Monday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. At this forum, article proponents will be available to explain the purpose of the article, to provide additional information and to respond to questions posed by voters. This will be the time to present any film or power point presentations as there will be no opportunity to do so at Town meeting. The goal is to shorten the duration of the meeting by limiting discussion to a debate on the articles rather than an opportunity for extensive questions.

Second: I plan to exercise my discretion as Moderator to limit the duration of remarks and to see to it that voters avoid repeating arguments which have been made by others.

Third: I will be attempting to streamline the consideration of the town budget in a way which will still permit debate on issues of concern, but hopefully more expeditiously. Again, if there are any items in either the operating budget or the capital outlay budget of particular concern to any voter, please reach out to me in advance of the Pre-Town Meeting forum so they can be addressed ahead of time.

As in prior years, we will be utilizing a Consent Agenda for the disposition of routine and non-controversial articles. Rather than address these articles one at a time, we will act using one motion. The thought behind this approach is that the articles on the Consent Agenda are those which should not generate controversy and as such can be properly voted without debate. Similar to the approach I am adopting with the budget, if any voter wishes to have any particular article considered separately, please let me know in advance of the Pre-Town Meeting forum. It has been our experience over the past few years in Sharon that the consent agenda process has been well received by voters as it has been successful in speeding up the handling of

non-controversial items so our time can be better devoted to issues of greater importance to the town. Given the challenges facing this year's Town Meeting, the Consent Agenda process is particularly useful.

This year's Consent Agenda will consist of the following articles:

#	Article
2	Act on Reports
3	Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments
8	Norfolk County Retirement Annual Assessment
9	Unemployment Fund
10	Funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund
11	Funding Assessor Inspection Services
12	Annual Audit Appropriation
13	Revolving Fund Authorizations
14	General Bylaw Change: Increase Expenditure Limits for Certain Revolving Funds
15	Property Tax Exemptions

Following the opening of Town Meeting, the Consent Agenda will be taken up first by reading the following motion:

Moved that the Town take Articles 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 out of order and they be "Passed by Consent" in accordance with the motions shown on the Consent Agenda as printed on pages i-iii in the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting.

Microphones will be positioned at the midway point and rear of the center aisle.

I would like to thank the voters of the Town of Sharon for their understanding and cooperation as we strive to deal with the challenges brought upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am confident we will meet those challenges and maintain our open town meeting tradition with fairness and sensitivity.

Finally, I would urge anyone with a question or concern to email me at townmoderator@townofsharon.org and to attend the Pre-Town Meeting forum so we can be maximally informed before Town Meeting convenes.

Be well and stay safe!

Andrew D. Nebenzahl
Town Moderator

WARRANT INTRODUCTION

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to make recommendations to the voters of Sharon on all matters that come before Town Meeting. The primary task at the Annual Town Meeting is for voters to adopt a budget for the next fiscal year. In addition, Town Meeting makes decisions on strategic issues of the Town such as major capital improvements and zoning. Other matters of Town business that require Town Meeting authorization are brought before the voters to debate and vote.

On October 12th, Annual Town Meeting will convene to decide a variety of issues. Of the 27 articles in this Warrant, the majority deal with fiscal matters, including the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Town budget, which totals $90,199,006, a 5.55% increase in spending over FY 2020. Because it is very important to the Annual Town Meeting process for voters to have as much relevant information as possible, this introduction will present a recap of the budget history, the financial planning process, the FY21 budget and highlight some other warrant articles.

Budget Background

The budget of the Town of Sharon is essentially separated into three components. The first component is the operational budget (about 70%), consisting primarily of salaries and smaller expenses such as supplies, fuel, occupancy costs, etc. The operational budget is divided into three sectors: (1) School Department; (2) Select Board (Police, Fire, DPW, Recreation) and most of the other departments responsible for town operating functions); and (3) Finance Committee (mainly the entities elected to oversee town administrative functions such as the Town Clerk, Library, Board of Health, Planning Board, and Board of Appeals). The School Department represents about 75% of the Town employees and operating budget. The Select Board and Finance Committee Sectors represent about 25% of the Town operating budget and employees. The second component of the budget is comprised of costs known as "fixed and uncontrollable" costs. These costs are primarily the Town's debt (principle and interest), property and other insurances, health insurance (for both current and retired employees), and other employee-related costs such as FICA and Medicare. As an enterprise fund, the Water Department has a separate operational budget funded exclusively by water rates and not by property taxes. The operating, fixed and uncontrollable and Water department budgets are voted under Articles 5 and 6. The third component relates to funding of retirement plan contributions for non-teaching personnel, other post-employment benefit costs (OPEB), unemployment compensation, property valuation and audit services. They are voted under articles 8 through 12.

Strategic Planning Process

On September 10, 2015 the Finance Committee, Select Board, School Committee and Capital Outlay Committee engaged in the start of a collective town planning process facilitated by the Town Administrator and Finance Director. A joint open meeting was convened to review the financial status and discuss significant long-term planning needs of the town. This collaborative process has continued. Joint meetings were held in June 2016, July 2017, January 2018, January 2019, September 2019 and August 2020. Strategic long-term financial planning remains a priority for the Finance Committee and is essential to managing the Town's fiscal matters.

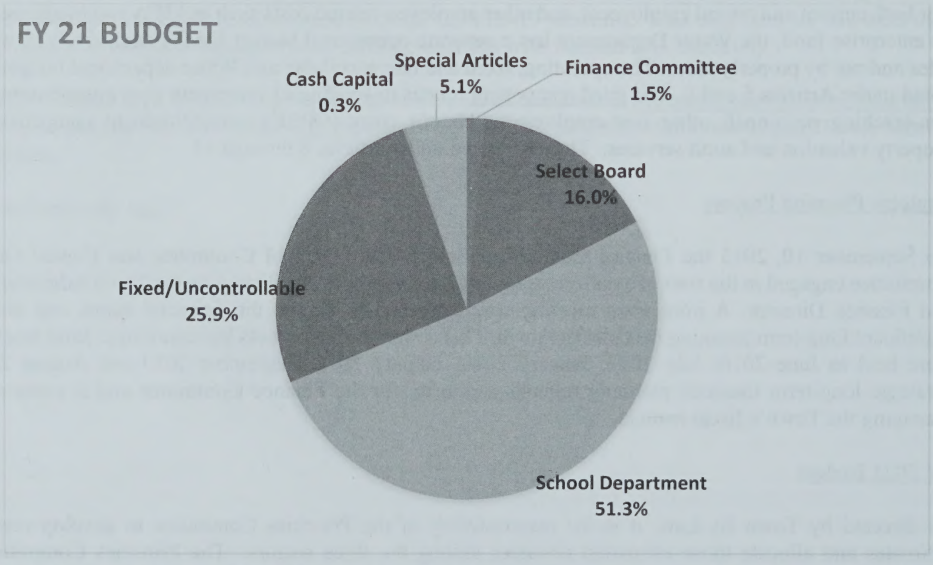
FY 2021 Budget

As directed by Town By-Law, it is the responsibility of the Priorities Committee to develop revenue estimates and allocate those estimated revenues among the three sectors. The Priorities Committee is composed of two representatives each from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee and is supported by the Town Administrator and Finance Director. Based on estimated available revenues from all sources and assuming not more than a 2.5% increase in the property levy, the Priorities Committee

voted in February 2020 to limit spending increases over FY 2020 to 2.94% for FY 2021 departmental budgets. After the economic landscape changed dramatically as a result of COVID-19 pandemic and while continuing to operate under FY 2020 budget constraints due to the postponement of Annual Town Meeting, the Priorities Committee reconvened in August 2020, with updated revenue assumptions, and reduced the departmental budget increase to 2.50% for all three sectors. The Finance Committee reviewed budget requests in February and March of 2020 as part of its normal process of making the recommendations in this warrant. After the revised Priorities Committee number was finalized, the Select Board and School sectors were required to adjust their departmental budgets to fit within the new budget limit. The Finance Committee sector budget already fit within the lower threshold.

The proposed FY 2021 budget for the Town of Sharon is $90,199,006, a 5.55% increase over FY 2020. If approved, the Town operating budgets would increase by 2.49%. The FY 2021 Town operating budget request is $61,967,265 (total budget less "fixed/uncontrollable and special articles"), comprised of the Select Board sector budget of $14,424,226, School Committee budget of $46,234,015 and the Finance Committee budget of $1,309,024. The FY 2021 proposed total budget includes $28,231,741 for the "fixed/uncontrollable and special articles" items[1]. A summary of the FY2020 and FY2021 budgets is provided below:

SECTOR	FY 20	FY 21	% Change
Finance Committee	$1,282,539	$1,309,024	2.07%
Select Board	$14,072,944	$14,424,226	2.50%
School Department	$45,108,051	$46,234,015	2.50%
Fixed/Uncontrollable	$20,265,733	$23,345,635	15.20%
Cash Capital	$346,500	$260,000	-24.96%
Special Articles 8-12	$4,381,292	$4,626,106	3.35%
TOTAL	**$85,457,059**	**$90,199,006**	**5.55%**



[1] The $4,418,324 for the Water Department enterprise fund operating and capital budgets are fully supported by water utilization.

Taken together, fixed/uncontrollable and special articles represent an increase of $3,238,216 (12.96%) over FY 2020.

The fixed & uncontrollable costs, including debt service, property insurance, employee healthcare and other mandatory payroll charges (Medicare/FICA), increased by $3,079,902 (15.20%) over FY 2020. The large increase in this category is due to the additional interest expense resulting from the February 2020 debt issuance in the amount of $86,440,000 at an interest rate of 1.88% to fund the construction of a new high school and library approved at the November 2019 debt exclusion vote. With the additional debt, interest expense increased sharply by $2,730,783 to $4,826,850. Excluding the interest expense, the rest of the fixed & uncontrollable expenses were up 1.92%.

The special articles (8-12), relate to retirement plan contributions for non-teaching personnel, other post-employment benefit costs (OPEB), unemployment compensation, property valuation and audit services. These costs, including cash capital from Article 6, have increased by $158,314 (3.35%) over FY2020. The single biggest factor is the retirement plan contributions increase of $244,814 (6.37%). The cash capital contribution will decrease by $86,500 to $260,000.

More than half (58%) of the proposed total budget increase comes from the additional interest expense on the February debt issuance to fund the new high school and library projects. The timing of this debt issue followed by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic is not ideal. Fortunately, the Town is in a position to maintain its services and move ahead with the important capital projects.

The Town has watched and waited patiently through the spring and summer months before finalizing a FY 2021 budget proposal and calling Town Meeting. At this time, Town officials feel confident in revenue projections and spending needs, despite these unprecedented economic times. Because salaries, employee benefits and debt service represent the vast majority of the budget, there are few options to offset the increased debt expense, and contractual salary increases and associated costs. Without new sustainable revenue sources, these increases will outpace the growth in assessed property values and the Town will be forced to further increase the property tax burden. Maintaining the balance between providing the services and resources the citizens of Sharon expect and desire while managing the growth in property taxes is a constant challenge.

Annual Town Meeting Articles

Many of the Warrant Articles to be considered at Town Meeting relate to the FY 2021 Budget. Article 4 sets the salaries of certain Town employees. Article 5 appropriates the operating budgets and a significant portion of fixed and uncontrollable expenses that comprise the FY 2021 Budget, as well as sets the compensation of elected officials. Article 6 funds requested capital purchases that are made annually outside of the department budgets. Article 7 relates to projects funded by the Community Preservation Act revenues and reserves managed by the Community Preservation Committee. Articles 8-12 relate to some of the items in the fixed and uncontrollable budget that fund certain employee-related costs (Article 8 – Norfolk County Retirement; Article 9 - Unemployment Fund; Article 10 - Other Post-Employment Benefits) as well as annual assessment inspection and valuation services (Article 11) and annual audit (Article 12). Article 13 reauthorizes revolving spending levels. Article 14 relates to the increase of expenditure limits for certain revolving funds. Article 15 relates to property tax exemptions.

The remainder of Articles, of which there are several, run the gamut and some have meaningful implications for the financial future of the town. Two articles relate to the development of the Sharon Gallery (Articles 21 & 26).

Article 16 concerns naming the driveway to the public safety building and DPW facility "Joe Roach Way." Article 17 relates to a proposed land swap to facilitate the development of a building to house civil defense equipment and operations.

Article 18 is a citizen's petition to impose a 3-year moratorium on artificial turf fields. Article 19 is a citizen's petition to limit the use of recycled asphalt pavement in Sharon.

Article 20 relates to a request to reconfigure the parcels within the Cape Club Recreational and Residential Overlay District. Article 21 concerns authorizing the Select Board to acquire easements related to construction of traffic improvements on South Main St at the entryway to the Sharon Gallery development.

Article 22 contains a General Bylaw change to amend and clarify the recently approved Water Discharge Bylaw, with respect to specifying the Town's right to Lien. Article 23 proposes a General Bylaw change to increase the number of alternates on the Council on Aging Board from 2 to 3.

Article 24 concerns the Town's recent acquisition of Rattlesnake Hill and more specifically the transfer of care and custody of the property from the Select Board to the Conservation Commission and to authorize notice and order of taking. Article 25 acknowledges the $150,000 contribution toward the acquisition of Rattlesnake Hill by placing a conservation restriction on Interlochen Park, land already held by the town for conservation purposes.

Article 26 contains Bylaw amendments to allow for the storage and retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel within Business District D (Sharon Gallery), with significant restrictions, to accommodate an interested anchor tenant with a membership club model that includes the sale of gasoline and diesel fuel.

Article 27 relates to authorizing the Town to sell the parcel of land at 80 South Main St, a parking lot, to the landlord of the adjacent CVS Health Pharmacy.

A detailed write-up of each article and corresponding Finance Committee Recommendations are presented below. The Finance Committee voted timely recommendations for all articles for which it was provided with sufficient information. If new information becomes available after this warrant was printed, the Committee may amend its recommendations at the Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee is pleased to be able to offer the Citizen of Sharon the opportunity to review how their individual property tax dollars are spent in support of Town services through the Sharon Visual Budget platform Sharon Visual Budget can be accessed from the Finance Committee page on the Town website via the link at the upper left "Sharon Visual Budget" or from an internet browser: https://sharon.vb2.visgov.com/ *Please note that the Internet Explorer does not support full aspects of Sharon Visual Budget. You are advised to use Google Chrome, Firefox, etc.*

Opportunities to ask questions or give opinions are always available at Finance Committee meetings and at the Open Warrant Meeting on October 5th. Please take time to understand the issues and attend the Annual Town Meeting on October 12th and make your voice heard.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Daniel Lewenberg, Chair; Patricia-Lee Achorn and Ira Miller, Vice-Chairs; Anja Bernier, William Brack, Arnold Cohen, Gordon Gladstone, Charles Goodman, Ann Keitner, Edward Philips, Anil Ramoju.

TOWN OF SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020
CONSENT AGENDA

Warrant articles on a Consent Agenda are exceptions to the general process of Town Meeting. The Moderator, in consultation with the Town Administrator and Town Counsel, identify for Town Meeting consideration, those articles that they believe will generate no controversy and can be properly voted without debate. These articles are put on the Consent Agenda to allow the individual motions under these articles to be acted upon as one unit and to be passed without debate.

At the call of the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will read out the number of the articles, one by one. If one or more voters object to any particular article being included in the Consent Agenda, they say "hold" in a loud voice when the number is called. If only one voter requests to "hold" an article for discussion, the Moderator will then call for a second. If a second is offered, the article then will be removed from the Consent Agenda and restored to its original place in the Warrant to be debated and to be voted in the usual manner. After the calling of the individual items in the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will ask for a motion that the voters pass all items remaining as a unit on one vote. Use of the Consent Agenda process makes the Town Meeting more efficient by speeding up the handling of non-controversial items.

The Consent Agenda will be taken up as the first order of business at the beginning of the first session of the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, October 12, 2020.

Please review the list of articles and motions proposed for each article that comprises the Consent Agenda that follows the proposed motion:

MOTION: Moved that the Town take Articles 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 out of order and they be "Passed by Consent" in accordance with the motions shown on the Consent Agenda as printed on pages i-iii in the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting.

Article 2: To act upon the reports as printed and to hear any other reports and to act thereon.

MOTION: Moved that the reports of the various officials, boards and committees be received for filing.

Article 3: To hear the records of the donors of the Dorchester and Surplus Revenue School Fund and Trustees of the Edmund H. Talbot Fund and to choose trustees of the Funds and other officers not on the official ballot; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town Clerk cast one ballot for the Trustees of the Dorchester and Surplus Revenue School Fund as follows: Bettye Outlaw, Patricia MacDougall and Elizabeth Siemiatkaska; That the Town Clerk cast one ballot for the Trustees of the Edmund H. Talbot Fund as follows: Shirley Schofield, Marie Cuneo and Paul Bergeron; To accept the report of the donors of the funds.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to pay the Norfolk County Retirement Board for the Annual Assessment costs chargeable to the Town, and determine whether the money shall be provided by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $4,087,106 to be added to the special fund established to pay the Norfolk County Retirement Board for the Annual Assessment costs chargeable to the Town.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the actual costs of benefits paid to former Town employees and chargeable to the Town, and determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $75,000 to be added to the special fund established to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the actual costs of benefits paid to former Town employees and chargeable to the Town.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund established to fund the presently unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current town retirees and employees, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by gift, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $350,000 to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund established to fund the presently unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current town retirees and employees.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $55,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2021 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $55,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, or as otherwise authorized by law.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform an annual audit of fixed assets and audit of accounts of the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2020 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, §40, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $59,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform an annual audit of fixed assets and annual audit of accounts of the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2020 in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 40 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize FY 2021 expenditure limits for the revolving funds listed below for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Article III of the Town's General Bylaws:

Revolving Fund	Expenditure Limit
Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund	$20,000.00
Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund	$7,000.00
Library Materials Replacement Fund	$3,500.00
Street Opening Fund	$25,000.00
Solid Waste and Recycling Fund	$1,800,000.00
Community Center Building Maintenance Fund	$100,000.00
High School Parking Lot Fund	$65,000.00
Railroad Parking Fund	$550,000.00
Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	$300,000.00
Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	$150,000.00
Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund	$4,000.00
Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variance	$20,000.00
Health Department Revolving Fund	$40,000.00
Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund	$25,000.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town authorize FY 2021 expenditure limits for the revolving funds printed on page 31 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Chapter 24, Article III of the Town's General Bylaws.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 24, Article III, Section 24-21 by increasing the restrictions on expenditure limits for each fiscal year for the following Revolving Funds as follows: Council on Aging – increase from $25,000 to $50,000 (as authorized by Article 13 of the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting); Recreation Programs – increase from $300,000 to $400,000; and Waterfront Recreation Programs – increase from $150,000 to $200,000.

MOTION: Moved that the Town amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 24, Article III, Section 24-21 by increasing the restrictions on expenditure limits for each fiscal year for the following Revolving Funds as follows: Council on Aging – increase from $25,000 to $50,000 (as authorized by Article 13 of the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting); Recreation Programs – increase from $300,000 to $400,000; and Waterfront Recreation Programs – increase from $150,000 to $200,000.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to accept Section 4, Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and Chapter 380 of the Acts of 2000, which authorizes additional real estate exemptions to be granted to persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town accept Section 4, Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and Chapter 380 of the Acts of 2000, which authorizes additional real estate exemptions to be granted to persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.

-- End --

TOWN OF SHARON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2020

Norfolk, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Sharon in the County of Norfolk, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Football Field at Sharon High School, 181 Pond Street, Sharon, Massachusetts on **Monday, October 12, 2020, at 1:00 P.M.**, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1: **Appoint Finance Committee Members and Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee Members**

Sponsored by: *Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee*

To see if the Town will choose members of the Finance Committee for three-year terms, and to fill any vacancies on said Committee; and to approve the Moderator's appointments of five members of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee for one-year terms; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article would endorse nominees to fill some or all of the expiring terms and vacancies on the Finance Committee. Article 2 of the Town of Sharon By-Laws states that it is the responsibility of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee to present to the voters for approval or other appropriate action its nominees.

Created by Sharon By-Law, the Finance Committee is composed of up to 12 members, each elected for a three-year term. Appointed by the Town Moderator, the Finance Committee Nominating Committee recommends to Town Meeting the names of residents who in its opinion would best fill the vacant positions.

The Finance Committee appreciates the work of The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee's Approval of this Article is an approval of the Nominating Committee process and not an endorsement of a particular individual nominated for the Finance Committee.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee

The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee interviewed the current incumbents who expressed a desire to remain on the committee and any registered voters who expressed a desire to join the Finance Committee in serving the Town of Sharon. The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee has nominated the following Town of Sharon residents to serve on the Finance Committee that will be voted in Article 1 at the Town Meeting on October 12, 2020. A brief biography is provided by each nominee to allow the town residents to be familiar with the members duly approved nomination.

Incumbents

Arnold Cohen
My wife, Susan and I have lived in Sharon since 1985. We have two adult children. I was previously elected three times to the Planning Board and served as chairperson of that Board for a number of years. I am a former member of the Sharon Housing Partnership and the Community Preservation Committee. I have been a practicing attorney for 46 years. I opened up my own office in Sharon Center six years ago.

Daniel K. Lewenberg
I moved to Sharon in 2012 with my wife, Catherine, and since then we have been blessed by the addition of three little ones. I am presently a stay at home dad, and the three keep me plenty busy. I have served one three-year term on the Finance Committee, representing the Finance Committee on the Priorities Committee, serving as Vice Chair, and currently serving as Chair. Previously, I worked in investment management as an equity research analyst and assistant portfolio manager. During this time, I built a financial knowledge base and analytical skill set that I can apply to the work of the Finance Committee. I am a graduate of Colgate University and earned a M.A. in Economics from Tufts University. I am constantly amazed by Sharon's unique balance of natural beauty, excellent education, diversity, location, and small town feel. I am passionate about our town and look forward to continuing to serve it.

Ann F. Keitner
Since moving to Sharon in 2014 with my husband and two children, I have become an active volunteer in the school system. I previously served as the Sharon Early Childhood Center PTO President and currently serve as Treasurer on the boards of both the Cottage Street School PTO and Sharon Special Education Parent Advisory Council. I am also a member of the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee. I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from William Smith College in Geneva, New York. My professional career includes more than twenty-five years of financial services industry experience. I have worked in investment adviser and broker/dealer compliance, as well as custody services, custody and asset management marketing, and operations management. For the last six years, I have worked as a compliance consultant for both investment advisors and broker/dealers and previously worked at Liberty Mutual Asset Management Group Inc. as the Director of Investment Adviser Compliance, as Chief Compliance Officer for Hermes Fund Managers (North America) Inc., as President and Chief Compliance Officer for Hermes Fund Distributors, and as Assistant Vice President and Senior Compliance Officer for Standish Mellon Asset Management.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town elect to the Finance Committee the following named: Arnold Cohen, 6 Tall Tree Road – 3-year term; Daniel Lewenberg, 18 Quincy Street – 3-year term; Ann Keitner, 29 Deborah Sampson Street – 3-year term.

That the Town approve the following named Moderator's appointments to the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee: Patricia Lee Achorn, 385 North Main Street – 1-year term; Jacqueline Modiste, 21 Canoe River Road – 1-year term; Cheryl Weinstein, 4 Coach Lane – 1-year term; David Fixler, 81 Bishop Road – 1-year term; Anne Carney, 41 Pole Plain Road – 1-year term.

Article 2: **Act on Reports**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To act upon the reports as printed and to hear any other reports and to act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this pro forma Article authorizes actions to be taken on reports.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 3: **Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To hear the records of the donors of the Dorchester and Surplus Revenue School Fund and Trustees of the Edmund H. Talbot Fund and to choose trustees of the Funds and other officers not on the official ballot; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this pro forma Article authorizes acceptance of the records and appointments of the Sharon Friends School Fund.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 4: **Personnel By-Law**

Sponsored by: *Personnel Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law of the Town of Sharon as follows, or act in any way relative thereto:

A. By adopting as amendments to said By-Law, the following interim and/or emergency changes, additions or deletions made by the Personnel Board in its authority under Section 2.6 of the By-Law:

B. By striking out all classification schedules and pay schedules in Appendix A and Appendix B and substituting new classification schedules and new pay schedules. Appendix A and Appendix B as of July 1, 2020, except as other dates are specified.

To accept the 2020 wage increases for Part-Time employees of the Recreation Department as listed below from the memorandum dated "September 2019" from the Recreation Department, effective January 1, 2020.

That the position of Children's Librarian be renamed as Youth Services Librarian effective July 10, 2019.

To accept the 2020 wage increases for Summer employees of the Recreation Department as listed from the memorandum dated "September 2019" from the Recreation Department, effective May 1, 2020.

APPENDIX A

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CONTAINED WITHIN CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE SECTION ENTITLED 1.100-1.300 WITH ASSOCIATED PAY SCHEDULE SECTION 2.100-2.300 ARE NOT COVERED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.

EXECUTIVE CATEGORY
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

SECTION 1.100
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.100
BASE PAY SCHEDULE/ANNUALLY

Position	Minimum	Actual	Maximum
Assessor	$78,338	$86,568	$108,138
Assistant to the Town Administrator	$70,960	$96,932	$96,932
Council on Aging Executive Director	$70,962	$79,224	$97,725
Director of Information Technology	$88,873	$117,647	$124,685
Finance Director	$96,180	$122,567	$139,557
Fire Chief	$106,830	$153,860	$153,860
Library Director	$78,297	$95,725	$97,872
Police Chief	$108,010	$171,535	$171,535
Recreation Director	$70,650	$91,800	$97,725
Superintendent of Public Works	$106,450	$146,030	$153,830
Town Administrator	$169,988	$202,985	$206,045
Town Engineer	$84,840	$119,620	$119,620
Treasurer/Collector	$81,815	$83,925	$114,295

SECTION 1.200
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.200
PAY SCHEDULE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SELECT BOARD
Select Board (hourly)
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
26.65	27.18	27.72	28.28	28.85	29.42	30.00	30.60	31.20	31.84

MISCELLANEOUS
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Veterans' Agent	20,983	annually
Sealer of Weights & Measures	4,589	annually
Assistant Animal Control/Senior Fill-In Officer	2,500	annually
Animal Control Fill-In (Weekend/Sick/Holiday/Vacation Coverage)	50.45	per assignment
Animal Control Fill-In (Night Pager Coverage)	14.41	per night
Animal Control Fill-In (After Hour Coverage)	14.41	per assignment

Animal Inspector	4,327	annually	
Plumbing/Gas Inspector	25.00	per hour	
Wiring Inspector	25.00	per hour	
DPW Temp/Summer Labor (hourly)	12.75	13.25	13.75
Per Diem Public Health Nurse	30.00	per hour	
Adult Center Receptionist/Aide	18.24	per hour	
Recreational Basketball League Coordinator	8,300	per season	
Referee Coordinator	1,000	per season	

Standing Building Committee Secretary (hourly) steps

Min	2	3	4	5
22.3810	22.8287	23.2852	23.7509	24.2260

Project Manager for the Standing Building Committee (hourly) steps

Min	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
34.47	35.25	36.04	36.83	37.67	38.54	39.39	40.27

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT - PART-TIME
Effective May 1, 2020 (hourly)

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Waterfront Director	$20.75	$21.00	$21.25
Waterfront Supervisor	$16.75	$17.00	$17.25
Asst. Waterfront Supervisor	$15.75	$16.00	$16.25
Lifeguard	$14.00	$14.25	$14.50
Lifeguard & WSI	$14.75	$15.00	$15.25
Program Director	$25.00	$25.25	$25.50
Program Supervisor	$19.75	$20.00	$20.25
Program Assistant Supervisor	$15.75	$16.00	$16.25
Program Counselor	$13.75	$14.00	$14.25
Gate Attendant	$12.75	$13.00	$13.25
Summer Maintenance	$16.75	$17.00	$17.25

Part-Time (Effective 1/1/2020)	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Program Instructor	$35.00	$36.00	$37.00
Program Director	$25.00	$25.25	$25.50
Program Coordinator	$19.75	$20.00	$20.25
Program Assistant	$13.75	$14.00	$14.25
Per Game:			
Non-Certified Referee	$15.00	$15.50	$16.00
Certified Referee	$40.00	$41.00	$42.00

APPENDIX B

The following positions contained within classification schedule sections entitled 1.400-1.800 with associated pay schedule sections 2.400-2.800 are covered by collective bargaining agreements.

MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY
(Formerly administrative, technical and professional category)

SECTION 1.400
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

MP-00	Assistant Town Engineer	MP-2	Animal Control Officer*
			Assistant Recreation Director
MP-0	Building Inspector		Business Manager
	Water Systems Supervisor		Info Services/Assistant Library Director*
			Assistant Operations Supervisor
MP-1	Operation Supervisor		Assistant Supervisor-Water
	Public Health Nurse*		Water Construction Supervisor
	Forestry & Grounds Supervisor		Water Pump Station Operator
	Health Agent for Engineering		
	Conservation Administrator	MP-3	Recreation Athletic Supervisor
	Health Administrator*		Technical Support Specialist*
	GIS Coordinator		
	Facilities Supervisor	MP-4	Part-Time Public Health Nurse*
			Case Manager/Coordinator of Volunteer Services

*The following positions work other than a 40-hour work week:

Health Administrator	37.5 hours
Information Services/Assistant Library Director	37.5 hours
Public Health Nurse	37.5 hours
Case Manager/Coordinator of Volunteer Services	37.5 hours
Animal Control Officer	25 hours
Technical Support Specialist	19 hours
Part Time Public Health Nurse	2 hours
(up to 10 hours for vacation coverage)	

SECTION 2.400
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12
MP-00	38.2910	39.1489	40.0328	40.9295	41.8523	42.8010	43.7629	44.7508	45.7516	46.7784	47.8311	48.7877
MP-0	36.3151	37.1341	37.9790	38.8238	39.7077	40.5913	41.5143	42.4373	43.3991	44.3868	45.3875	46.2954
MP-1	33.9628	34.7295	35.5094	36.2893	37.1083	37.9661	38.8110	39.6688	40.5656	41.5013	42.4373	43.2860
MP-2	30.8045	31.5321	32.2080	32.9489	33.6637	34.4307	35.2106	36.0032	36.8223	37.6411	38.4859	39.2555
MP-3	28.3145	28.9067	29.5306	30.2065	30.8824	31.5973	32.2861	33.0402	33.7676	34.5217	35.3015	36.0076
MP-4	25.7092	26.2810	26.8662	27.4638	28.0878	28.7377	29.3616	30.0114	30.7134	31.3763	32.0911	32.7330

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

LIBRARY CATEGORY
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

LMP-3	Head of Youth Services Head of Adult and Technology Services
LMP-4	Children's Librarian Information Services Librarian

	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
LMP-3	28.26	28.93	29.57	30.22	30.89	31.59	32.31	33.06	33.77	34.53
LMP-4	25.70	26.28	26.87	27.48	28.09	28.72	29.35	30.06	30.73	31.41
L4	23.50	23.97	24.45	24.95	25.44	25.95	26.45	26.97	27.52	28.08

Library Page 12.75; 13.50 effective 1/1/2021

LOC-3a	Circulation Supervisor Technical Services Supervisor
LOC-3b	
LOC-4a	Library Assistant Technical Services Assistant Administrative Assistant - Library
LOC-4b	

	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
LOC-3A	24.40	24.89	25.37	25.89	26.40	26.93	27.47	28.03	28.59	29.15
LOC-3B	23.10	23.57	24.03	24.52	25.02	25.53	26.02	26.54	27.07	27.61
LOC-4A	21.91	22.34	22.78	23.23	23.72	24.16	24.68	25.16	25.66	26.18
LOC-4B	20.77	21.20	21.60	22.04	22.49	22.93	23.40	23.87	24.33	24.83

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

LABOR CATEGORY

SECTION 1.500
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

Grade A	Working Foreman (F&G, Water, Operations), Senior Water Systems Technician
Grade B	Master Mechanic
Grade C	Aerial Lift Oper., Heavy Equip. Oper., Water Sys. Tech., Working Foreman/Facilities Maint-Comm Ctr
Grade D	Night Custodian
Grade E	Auto Equipment Operator, Recreation Custodian, Maint Man/Custodian DPW

SECTION 2.500
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12
A	27.91	28.66	29.38	30.15	30.89	31.64	32.42	33.16	33.89	34.64	35.33	36.04
B	26.71	27.31	27.89	28.48	29.05	29.67	30.24	30.86	31.45	32.04	32.68	33.34
C	24.39	25.05	25.69	26.35	26.98	27.65	28.32	28.97	29.62	30.27	30.87	31.49
D	24.64	25.13	25.64	26.17	26.69	27.21	27.76	28.31	28.88	29.45	30.04	30.65
E	23.38	23.86	24.32	24.83	25.29	25.79	26.33	26.84	27.38	27.92	28.48	29.05

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

OFFICE OCCUPATION CATEGORY

SECTION 1.600
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

OC-1 Assistant Accountant
Assistant Treasurer/Collector

OC-2a Administrative Assistant – Assessor
Office Manager/Transportation Coordinator, Council on Aging
Administrative Fire Secretary/Ambulance Records Supervisor
Assistant Town Clerk
Confidential Secretary to the Police Chief
Financial Assistant - Payroll/Revenue

OC-2b Collections Supervisor
Payroll/Benefits Administrator

OC-3a Election & Registration Secretary
Financial Assistant – Accounting /Veterans

OC-3b Activities/Program Coordinator COA
Secretary – Building & Engineering
Secretary – DPW Operations Division
Secretary – Water
Secretary – Recreation
Senior Clerk – Assessor
Secretary – Conservation Commission
Financial Assistant – Treasurer/Collector
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health

OC-4a Secretary – Planning Board
Secretary – Finance Committee
Secretary – Personnel Board
Secretary – Zoning Board of Appeals

OC-4b Bus/Van Driver
Police Clerk
Secretary – Community Preservation
Secretary – Sharon Standing Building Committee

Secretary – all other Committees

SECTION 1.600
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.600
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step10	Step 11
OC-1	30.589	31.1991	31.8191	32.4601	33.122	33.773	34.446	35.139	35.843	36.558	37.2939
OC-2a	27.542	28.0931	28.6549	29.2280	29.812	30.408	31.017	31.637	32.270	32.915	33.5738
OC-2b	26.344	26.8712	27.4086	27.9568	28.515	29.086	29.668	30.261	30.866	31.483	32.1135
OC-3a	24.757	25.2527	25.7577	26.2729	26.798	27.334	27.881	28.438	29.007	29.587	30.1793
OC-3b	23.454	23.9236	24.4021	24.8901	25.387	25.895	26.413	26.941	27.480	28.030	28.5909
OC-4a	22.246	22.6910	23.1448	23.6077	24.079	24.561	25.052	25.553	26.064	26.586	27.1178
OC-4b	21.090	21.5120	21.9422	22.3810	22.828	23.285	23.750	24.226	24.710	25.204	25.7088

PUBLIC SAFETY CATEGORY

SECTION 1.700
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.700
PAY SCHEDULE/WEEKLY

POLICE DEPARTMENT
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Patrol Officer	PD-60A	PD-60B	PD-60C	PD-60D	PD-60E	PD-60F	PD-60G	PD-60H	PD-60I
PD-60	Recruit	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
	928.41	990.95	1,056.33	1,110.68	1,168.68	1,192.09	1,246.35	1,277.51	1,309.45

Sergeant	PD-80A	PD-80B	PD-80C	PD-80D	PD-80E	PD-80F
PD-80	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
	1,400.72	1,428.77	1,457.31	1,486.46	1,516.20	1,576.52

The amounts of pay shown in the above schedule for position code PD-60 and PD-80 do not include the extra pay for educational qualifications provided for in the statutes and regulations of the State.
Members of the Police Department, while so designated by the Chief of Police, shall receive additional compensation to be considered part of their base pay as follows:

Prosecutor	50.00	per week
Detective Patrol Officer	50.00	per week
Detective Sergeant	25.00	per week when assigned to two of the four shifts in the 4-2 schedule
Detective Sergeant	50.00	per week when assigned solely to the Detective unit
Motorcycle Operator (Selective Enforcement)	32.54	per week
Accreditation Manager, Computer Manager	32.54	per week
Crime Prevention Officer	32.54	per week
Special Assignment Officer	32.54	per week
LEAPS Representative	10.00	per week

DISPATCHERS
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Relief 1	Relief 2	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
23.23	23.69	24.18	24.65	25.15	25.65	26.17	26.69	27.23	27.77

POLICE CROSSING GUARDS
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

			Daily Rate
School Crossing Guard	PD-20	Step 1	40.29
		Step 2	43.91
		Step 3	48.28
School Crossing Guard Supervisor	PD-20A		60.47

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

SUPERIOR OFFICERS
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
2,046.21	2,128.48	2,213.34	2,280.25	2,348.65	2,419.11

FIRE DEPARTMENT
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

SECTION 1.410
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.410
PAY SCHEDULE/WEEKLY

		Step 1	Step2	Step 3	Step 4
Capt/EMT	FD90	1,477.46	1,507.01	1,582.36	
Capt/Medic	FD92	1,524.93	1,555.43	1,633.20	
Lt/EMT	FD80	1,347.46	1,401.37		
Lt/Medic	FD82	1,397.73	1,453.63		
F/F-EMT	FD60	1,088.37	1,138.84	1,187.97	1,271.21
F/F-Medic	FD62	1,135.82	1,186.29	1,215.34	1,318.64

Members of the Fire Department are eligible to receive additional compensation in each fiscal year in accordance with the following educational incentive program:

For 30 Course Credits certified	14.50	per week
For 45 Course Credits certified	19.25	per week
For an Associate Degree certified	40.00	per week
For a Bachelor's Degree certified	65.00	per week
For a Master's Degree certified	72.00	per week

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

CALL FIREFIGHTERS
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011
Hourly compensation rate: $20.00

This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

The following positions contained within classification schedule section entitled 1.100 – 1.300 with associated pay schedule section 2.100 – 2.300 are not covered by collective bargaining agreements.

Deputy Police Chief	2,968.10	per week
Deputy Fire Chief	2,405.75	per week

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this Article would amend the Town's Personnel By-Law and implement the listed increases in salaries and wages for executive employees. Compensation for elected officials is dealt with in Article 5 of the Warrant.

The majority of the salaries contained in Article 4 are union contracts negotiated by the Select Board. This year contractual increases are 1.5% plus individual bargaining unit's "steps" (incremental increases based upon experience in a position). The union contract amounts in Article 4 are informational only; voters do not approve those pay tables.

Also included in this Article is the compensation for the "Executive Category." For this group of thirteen professionals the Select Board propose salary increases and request concurrence of the Personnel Board. The base increase for Executive Category employees is 1.5% to match the union contractual increase, plus a performance bonus with the total increase not to exceed 3.5% (1.5% COLA and 2% merit) per individual. This year the Executive salary adjustments vary between 2.5% and 3.5% contingent on the results of the individual's annual performance review. There are four individuals at the maximum salary for their position who receive the 1.5% COLA but are not eligible for merit increases. The Personnel Board is requested to concur on the equitable application of the performance process (not the percentage or dollar increase).

In the fall of 2017, the Personnel Board requested information about executive's salaries by individual job title from fifteen towns (three adjacent and twelve considered comparable to Sharon). This extensive survey included information on minimum and maximum salary range, actual salary, steps in salary range, years of service, insurance (health & life) and deferred compensation.

That information was evaluated as follows to determine new executive salary ranges for Sharon:

1. The median, minimum and maximum salaries were calculated to determine Sharon minimum and maximum salary ranges per position.
2. 10% was added to the maximum salary range to assure that no incumbent would reach maximum before the next three-year survey, provided the performance adjustment didn't exceed 3% per year.
3. The maximum salary for each range includes the 1.5% salary adjustment for FY2020 and will be similarly adjusted in FY2021. The comprehensive compensation survey will be repeated in the fall of 2020 to be used as the basis of executive group salaries for FY2022.

The Finance Committee has had extensive discussions regarding salary increases for the Town Executive group and the School Central Administration personnel where annual salary increases are not tied to union contracts. This is a difficult year for the Town and citizens who have faced financial adversity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the actual dollar amount involved in this year's increases is a minor portion of the overall Town budget, members of the Finance Committee expressed concern that the salaries would be increased as business as usual in an unusual financial year. They recognize the current financial burden of many Sharon citizens and wanted to reconsider Executive and School Central Administration increases for FY21. Ultimately, the decision and authority to appropriate funds for this purpose rests with the Select Board and the School Committee.

A listing of the wages earned and paid to all Town employees, inclusive of overtime and stipends, can be found in the annual Town Report.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend the Personnel By-law of the Town of Sharon exactly as printed on pages 3 through 11 of the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or act in any way relative thereto."

Article 5: **FY 2021 Budget & Compensation of Elected Officials**

Sponsored by: *Finance Committee*

To fix the compensation of elected officers, and to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriation from other available funds, to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will fund FY 2021 Town operations as detailed. The Finance Committee has a statutory obligation to present to Town Meeting, for debate and approval, operating budgets for all Town departments. The Town departments are grouped into three operating sectors: Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee. Each sector must develop budgets for their respective department operations in the months leading up to Town Meeting.

As directed by town Bylaw, it is the responsibility of the Priorities Committee to develop revenue estimates and allocate those estimated revenues among the three Sectors. The statutory responsibility of the Finance Committee is to recommend to Town Meeting the amount to be spent.

This has not been a usual year in which to develop and approve the next fiscal year budget. The economic condition began changing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic just as the Finance Committee was wrapping up the normal budget review process. By the May meeting of the Finance Committee, the very date that Annual Town Meeting was originally scheduled to be held, it was clear that the process followed early in 2020 for the development of the FY 2021 budgets did not reflect the dramatic changes suddenly facing our community as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In May, the Finance Committee began working with the Town Administrator and Finance Director to address the need to review and revise the

expectations for FY 2021 revenue determined by the Priorities Committee, and the impact on the sector budgets as well as the capital budget for FY 2021.

During the summer months, in the absence of revenue guidance from the state as to local aid and without an Annual Town Meeting to pass an FY 2021 Budget due to limitations presented by the pandemic, the Town proceeded on a month-to-month budget based on 1/12 FY 2020 budget levels. That afforded the Town the ability to wait to pass a budget once the outlook was clearer both for Town revenues and expenses. These 'month-to-month' 1/12 budgets were required under the state finance laws and duly voted by the Select Board and approved by the state Department of Revenue.

In early August, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts finally announced that they would keep FY 2021 local aid level with the prior year and that piece of information allowed the Priorities Committee to reconvene to set new operating budget limits.

At an August 18th join meeting of the Select Board, School Committee, Finance Committee, Priorities Committee and Capital Outlay Committee, the capital budget was reduced by $705,013 and the Town revenue projection was reduced by $631,967. With help from some adjustments to fixed and uncontrollable items, including Finance Committee decisions to hold off on a $150,000 OPEB contribution increase and to prefund certain capital spending items with FY2020 reserves, sector operating budgets needed to be reduced by $272,756 to fit within the reduced revenue projection. As such, the percent increase over FY 2020 sector operating budgets was reduced from an initial planned increase of 2.94% to 2.5% and departments were required to reduce previously reviewed operating budgets to meet the new limit.

The Priorities Committee, consisting of two representatives from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee, unanimously voted to limit spending increases to an amount not to exceed the revenue generated from all sources assuming not more than a 2.5% increase in the tax levy as permitted by Prop. 2 ½ for the three operational budget sectors funded in this article, plus fixed expenses and the items presented in Articles 8-12.

The total amount requested for the FY2021 budget appropriation under Articles 5 and 8-12 is $90,199,006, up $4,741,947, or 5.55% year over year. Items such as the retirement contribution, payments into the unemployment fund, OPEB funding, and the cost of property valuation services and the annual audit are included in the total amount but are funded through Articles 8-12.

By itself, the requested appropriation under Article 5 is for $85,312,900 (up $4,583,633 or 5.68% year over year) and is allocated among the budget sectors as follows: Select Board department budgets of $14,424,226, School Committee budget of $46,234,015 and the Finance Committee budgets of $1,309,024, and $23,345,635 allocated for so-called Fixed & Uncontrollable items such as health and other insurances, debt service, and street lighting and Special Items. The Fixed and Uncontrollables increased by $3,079,902 (15.20%) primarily due to the debt service on the high school and library projects. The combined requested appropriations under Articles 8-12, and including cash capital from Article 6, total $4,886,106.

A significant item to note is increased interest expense due to the February 2020 debt issuance in the amount of $86,440,000 at an interest rate of 1.88% to fund construction of a new high school and library. As a result of the additional debt, interest expense increased sharply by $2,730,783 to $4,826,850. To put in perspective, excluding the increased interest expense, the Article 5 appropriation request would have been a 2.3% increase.
The compensation for elected officials proposed for FY 2021 within the respective department budgets is as follows:

- Select Board - chair $500, two members $400 each

- Assessors – chair $2,400, two members $2,200 each
- Town Clerk - $79,170*
- Moderator - $50

*The Town Clerk's salary is $72,500 to be voted at Town Meeting. The appropriation amount reflects the blended salary of the Town Clerk under FY2020 vote and the FY2021 salary from October 11 to June 30, 2021.

In addition, the proposed FY 2021 budget for the Water Department totals $4,418,324 (excluding water capital projects to be appropriated under Article 6). As an enterprise fund, the Water Department expenses are funded exclusively by water rates.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town raise and appropriate for the various Town offices and for defraying charges and expenses of the Town, including debt principal and debt interest for fiscal year July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, the various sums stated "Fiscal Year 2021" as shown on pages 16 to 17 of the Warrant except the following: Select Board, Board of Assessors, Fire/Ambulance, Schools, Town Clerk, Debt: Principal, Debt: Interest, Water Department and Cable Public Access.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $417,038 for the Select Board's budget, of which $500 shall be for the Chair and $800 for the salaries of the other members, and $415,738 shall be for other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $217,298 for the Board of Assessors budget, of which $2,400 shall be for the salary of the chair, $4,400 shall be for the salaries for the other members, and $210,498 shall be for the other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $3,710,580 for the Fire/Ambulance budget, of which $650,000 shall be transferred from the Ambulance Reserve Account, with the balance of $3,060,580 raised on the tax levy; raise and appropriate $85,000 for EMS ambulance billing and supplies from the Ambulance Reserve Account.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $46,234,015 for the purpose of operating the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and in order to meet this appropriation $200,000 shall be transferred from the Overlay Reserve Account, with the balance of $46,034,015 raised on the tax levy.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $157,927 for the Town Clerk's budget, of which $79,170 shall be for the salary of the Town Clerk, and $78,757 shall be for other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of $11,495,850 for the Debt: Principal budget ($6,669,000) and Debt interest ($4,826,850), and in order to meet said appropriation the following amounts shall be transferred from accounts as set forth below: Septic Loan Program: $29,215, Excluded Debt Premium: $25,293, and Community Education Revolving Funds: $130,538, with the balance of $11,310,804 raised on the tax levy.

That the Town appropriate the sum of $4,218,324 for the Water Department budget, with $4,200,000 raised from user fees and $18,324 from Water Retained Earnings; and also appropriate the sum of $200,000 from Water Retained Earnings for a Reserve Fund.

That the Town appropriate the sum of $340,000 raised from cable subscriber franchise fees for the Cable Public Access Enterprise Fund.

Account		FY21 Approp.	% over FY20	FY20 Approp.	% over FY19	FY19 Approp.	% over FY18	FY18 Approp.	% over FY17
114	Moderator	$ 50.00	0.00%	$ 50.00	0.00%	$ 50.00	0.00%	$ 50.00	0.00%
131	Finance Committee	$ 9,855.00	-39.37%	$ 16,255.00	-5.80%	$ 17,255.00	-6.98%	$ 18,550.00	-15.63%
152	Personnel Board	$ 3,150.00	-3.88%	$ 3,277.00	3.15%	$ 3,177.00	0.00%	$ 3,177.00	-11.48%
161	Town Clerk	$ 157,927.00	-6.68%	$ 169,236.00	2.27%	$ 165,478.00	3.83%	$ 159,380.00	2.96%
610	Library	$ 1,138,042.00	4.05%	$ 1,093,721.00	4.44%	$ 1,047,264.00	4.69%	$ 1,000,305.00	3.26%
	Total Fin. Com. Budgets	**$ 1,309,024.00**	**2.07%**	**$ 1,282,539.00**	**4.00%**	**$ 1,233,224.00**	**4.38%**	**$ 1,181,462.00**	**2.81%**
122	Select Board	$ 417,038.00	4.97%	$ 397,308.00	-0.57%	$ 399,570.00	4.60%	$ 382,003.00	1.58%
135	Accountant	$ 271,275.00	5.17%	$ 257,945.00	-2.09%	$ 263,438.00	3.38%	$ 254,823.00	2.30%
141	Board of Assessors	$ 217,298.00	4.26%	$ 208,414.00	-4.19%	$ 217,527.00	-8.27%	$ 237,132.00	-2.61%
145	Treasurer	$ 316,213.00	-1.16%	$ 319,937.00	-2.94%	$ 329,632.00	-3.31%	$ 340,931.00	-6.48%
151	Law	$ 137,500.00	3.00%	$ 133,500.00	-5.65%	$ 141,500.00	4.04%	$ 136,000.00	2.03%
155	Information Technology	$ 335,533.00	6.84%	$ 314,051.00	3.21%	$ 304,272.00	-2.92%	$ 313,437.00	8.50%
162	Elections & Registrations	$ 161,350.00	11.84%	$ 144,275.00	5.12%	$ 137,249.00	36.16%	$ 100,803.00	-22.54%
171	Conservation Commission	$ 106,760.00	-16.13%	$ 127,295.00	3.21%	$ 123,330.00	2.62%	$ 120,185.00	1.26%
172	Lake Management	$ 6,500.00	0.00%	$ 6,500.00	0.00%	$ 6,500.00	0.00%	$ 6,500.00	160.00%
175	Planning Board	$ 25,525.00	74.83%	$ 14,600.00	7.35%	$ 13,600.00	0.00%	$ 13,600.00	0.00%
176	Board of Appeals	$ 22,700.00	0.61%	$ 22,563.00	0.00%	$ 22,563.00	0.00%	$ 22,563.00	0.59%
195	Town Report	$ 18,375.00	2.51%	$ 17,925.00	24.70%	$ 14,375.00	7.48%	$ 13,375.00	0.00%
210	Police	$ 3,801,887.00	1.38%	$ 3,750,293.00	0.31%	$ 3,738,688.00	3.48%	$ 3,613,097.00	0.41%
220	Fire/Ambulance	$ 3,710,580.00	1.66%	$ 3,650,077.00	5.43%	$ 3,461,955.00	4.66%	$ 3,307,856.00	3.20%
244	Weights & Measures	$ 5,302.00	1.30%	$ 5,234.00	1.30%	$ 5,167.00	2.13%	$ 5,059.00	1.73%
249	Animal Inspector	$ 4,497.00	1.67%	$ 4,423.00	1.68%	$ 4,350.00	2.52%	$ 4,243.00	1.95%
291	Civil Defense	$ 11,500.00	0.24%	$ 11,472.00	0.00%	$ 11,472.00	17.40%	$ 9,772.00	0.00%
292	Animal Control Officer	$ 81,159.00	0.38%	$ 80,852.00	1.92%	$ 79,327.00	1.18%	$ 78,403.00	1.64%
400	Dept of Public Works	$ 3,938,997.00	5.50%	$ 3,733,706.00	5.37%	$ 3,543,382.00	1.36%	$ 3,495,681.00	7.10%
510	Board of Health - Services & Admin	$ 167,241.00	-25.63%	$ 224,882.00	3.39%	$ 217,502.00	5.51%	$ 206,146.00	2.54%
541	Council on Aging	$ 282,379.00	-6.77%	$ 302,878.00	-0.28%	$ 303,731.00	2.51%	$ 296,304.00	2.10%
543	Veterans Agent	$ 94,431.00	37.04%	$ 68,908.00	0.74%	$ 68,402.00	0.59%	$ 68,002.00	5.35%
544	Veterans Graves	$ 5,400.00	0.00%	$ 5,400.00	0.00%	$ 5,400.00	8.00%	$ 5,000.00	8.70%
545	Commission on Disability	$ 500.00	0.00%	$ 500.00	0.00%	$ 500.00	0.00%	$ 500.00	0.00%
630	Recreation	$ 275,606.00	5.46%	$ 261,326.00	7.73%	$ 242,580.00	4.36%	$ 232,436.00	2.60%
691	Historical Commission	$ 1,380.00	0.00%	$ 1,380.00	112.31%	$ 650.00	0.00%	$ 650.00	0.00%
692	Community Celebrations	$ 7,300.00	0.00%	$ 7,300.00	0.00%	$ 7,300.00	52.08%	$ 4,800.00	0.00%
	Total Select Board Budgets	**$ 14,424,226.00**	**2.50%**	**$ 14,072,944.00**	**2.99%**	**$ 13,663,962.00**	**2.97%**	**$ 13,269,301.00**	**2.76%**

Account		FY21 Approp.	% over FY20	FY20 Approp.	% over FY19	FY19 Approp.	% over FY18	FY18 Approp.	% over FY17
310	School Department	$ 46,234,015.00	2.50%	$ 45,108,051.00	2.94%	$ 43,818,836.00	3.31%	$ 42,414,939.00	- 2.79%
	Total School Department	**$ 46,234,015.00**	**2.50%**	**$ 45,108,051.00**	**2.94%**	**$ 43,818,836.00**	**3.31%**	**$ 42,414,939.00**	**2.79%**
320	Voc Tech School	$ 174,716.00	-27.20%	$ 240,000.00	-3.80%	$ 230,320.00	-3.80%	$ 239,410.00	-12.75%
321	Voc Tuition/Norfolk Ag. Tuition	$ 12,000.00	33.33%	$ 9,000.00	-34.50%	$ 7,860.00	-34.50%	$ 12,000.00	-33.33%
9299	ARC of South Norfolk	$ 9,916.00	0.00%	$ 9,916.00	0.00%	$ 9,916.00	0.00%	$ 9,916.00	0.00%
132	Reserve Fund	$ 500,000.00	0.00%	$ 500,000.00	0.00%	$ 500,000.00	0.00%	$ 500,000.00	0.00%
490	Street Lighting	$ 217,048.00	13.05%	$ 192,000.00	0.00%	$ 192,549.00	0.00%	$ 192,552.00	2.39%
511	Board of Health - Waste Removal	$ 110,500.00	11.06%	$ 99,500.00	-25.10%	$ 89,500.00	-25.10%	$ 119,500.00	0.00%
710	Debt: Principal	$ 6,669,000.00	2.25%	$ 6,522,300.00	-5.41%	$ 6,440,000.00	-5.41%	$ 6,808,327.00	2.05%
751	Debt Long term:Interest	$ 4,826,850.00	130.28%	$ 2,096,067.00	2.30%	$ 2,123,949.00	2.30%	$ 2,076,129.00	-4.20%
914	FICA: Medicare	$ 780,000.00	6.12%	$ 735,000.00	1.38%	$ 735,000.00	1.38%	$ 725,000.00	0.76%
915	FICA: Social Security	$ 10,000.00	-4.76%	$ 10,500.00	0.49%	$ 10,500.00	0.49%	$ 10,449.00	0.00%
916	Benefits Accrual							$ -	
920	Insurance	$ 10,035,605.00	1.87%	$ 9,851,450.00	1.01%	$ 9,770,030.00	1.01%	$ 9,672,575.00	6.65%
	Total Fixed & Uncontrollable	**$ 23,345,635.00**	**15.20%**	**$ 20,265,733.00**	**-1.26%**	**$ 20,109,624.00**	**-1.26%**	**$ 20,365,858.00**	**3.13%**
	Town Total	**$ 85,312,900.00**	**5.68%**	**$ 80,729,267.00**	**2.41%**	**$ 78,825,646.00**	**2.06%**	**$ 77,231,560.00**	**2.87%**
450	Water Department	$ 4,218,324.00	15.97%	$ 3,637,377.76	16.54%	$ 3,121,070.00	-28.85%	$ 4,386,431.00	-15.75%
	Water Dept.- Reserve	$200,000	0.00%	$200,000	0.00%	$200,000	0.00%	$ 200,000.00	0.00%
	Total Water Department	**$ 4,418,324.00**	**15.14%**	**$ 3,837,377.76**	**15.55%**	**$ 3,321,070.00**	**-27.59%**	**$ 4,586,431.00**	**-15.16%**
	PEG Access (cable) Enterprise Fund	**$ 340,000.00**	**0.00%**	**$ 340,000.00**					
	Total GF Budgets Less Fixed	**$ 61,967,265.00**	**2.49%**	**$ 60,463,534.00**	**2.98%**	**$ 58,716,022.00**	**3.25%**	**$ 56,865,702.00**	**2.78%**

Article 6: **Capital Outlay**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to consider the following items A through K, which will be voted separately, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money for each of the capital outlay purposes herein mentioned, and to determine whether the money shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or act in any way relative thereto.

CIVIL DEFENSE

6A. Additional appropriation for the Civil Defense building

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

6B. Purchase of equipment by the Department of Public Works

6C. Resurfacing of public ways and reconstruction of sidewalks by the Department of Public Works

WATER DEPARTMENT

6D. Relaying of water mains for the Water Department

6E. Additional appropriation for the Massapoag Avenue Water Tank

6F. Replacing or relining water distribution pipes and constructing a pump station to facilitate an emergency supply connection to the MWRA system via the Town of Norwood

6G. Replacement of water meters

6H. Purchase of equipment for the Water Department

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

6I. Purchase of technology equipment by the School Department

FIRE DEPARTMENT

6J. Purchase of equipment by the Fire Department

POLICE DEPARTMENT

6K. Purchase of equipment by the Police Department

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

To see if the Town will vote to consider the following items A through K, which will be voted separately, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money for each of the capital outlay purposes herein mentioned, and

to determine whether the money shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or act in any way relative thereto.

CIVIL DEFENSE

6A. Additional appropriation for the Civil Defense building,
Civil defense is requesting $50,000 to be borrowed towards a new Civil Defense building. This amount would be in addition to the $350,000 previously approved by Town Meeting for the project. Construction of the building was temporarily suspended until a land swap was approved with the National Parks Service. The $50,000 would cover the additional cost caused by the delay and updated construction plans.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

6B. Purchase of equipment by the Department of Public Works
DPW is requesting a total of $325,000 to be borrowed towards the purchase of new equipment.

Project	**Budget Source**	**Amount**
Large dump truck/plow	Borrow/Debt	$245,000
Small dump truck/plow	Borrow/Debt	$80,000
Total		**$325,000**

The request for the large dump truck would replace present DPW vehicle #14, a 2000 model that has failed inspection due to a rusted frame and chassis, and is thus no longer road worthy. The vehicle is used by the Operations Division for all construction activities throughout Town and for all plowing and sanding operations.

The small dump truck for Forestry and Grounds would replace DPW vehicle #73, a 2003 Ford F550 with 123,825 miles and a broken transmission.

6C. Resurfacing of public ways and reconstruction of sidewalks by the Department of Public Works

Project	**Budget Source**	**Amount**
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks East St. from Paul Revere to Ames	Borrow/Debt	$95,000
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks of approx. 2,000 feet between 32 Gunhouse St. and the intersection with Beach Street	Borrow/Debt	$104,000
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks Dedham Street from Edge Hill Road to Canton Street	Borrow/Debt	$142,500
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks Old Post Road from Pine Street to Walpole Street	Borrow/Debt	$124,500
Total		**$466,000**

Note: Sidewalks on East and Gunhouse will be replaced exclusively where they are presently existing.

DPW is requesting a total of $466,000 to be borrowed for resurfacing of public ways and reconstruction of sidewalks. Currently DPW is expecting that the amount would be enough to implement the projects detailed in the above table. However, ability to complete paving projects across Town within the budget allocated will depend on whether Town Meeting will approve the Citizens Petition to Limit Use of Recycled Pavement (Article 19 of this Warrant). Approval of Article 19 would prohibit the Town from stockpiling recycled asphalt. Consequently, the Town would have to contract to have real-time dump trucks lined up to collect the asphalt material as it is produced during paving projects. The Town currently stockpiles recycled asphalt, and either hauls it away with Town trucks, whenever vehicles and staff are available, or

have a variety of end users haul it away over time. DPW estimates that prohibiting the stockpiling of recycled asphalt would result in a 50% increase of paving project costs. As a result, the amount of paving projects across Town would drop by 50% each year, or the budget allocated to paving would have to increase by 50% each year. For FY2021, DPW would likely drop the Gunhouse Street and East Street projects if Article 19 gets approved.

It should be noted that due to Covid-19, paving projects across the Commonwealth are in a state of flux in terms of priority. With the order of priority, in general, being Federal projects - State projects - Municipal projects. So, if either paving contractor staffing or asphalt production capacity is impacted this fall, the ability to complete paving projects in Sharon will likely be impacted, whether they are funded or not.

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department is requesting a total $3,205,000 to be borrowed (debt service for which will be paid from water rates) and an additional $150,000 in cash (funded by water rates) towards purchase of equipment and various operational projects:

Project	**Budget Source**	**Amount**
Relaying of water mains	Borrowing	$500,000
Massapoag Ave tank replacement	Borrowing	$1,500,000
Replacing/relining of pipes for emergency supply connection	Cash	$150,000
Replacement of water meters	Borrowing	$1,000,000
Large Dump Truck/Plow	Borrowing	$205,000
Total		**$3,355,000**

6D. Relaying of water mains for the Water Department
$500,000 to be borrowed towards ongoing work in the Heights area to replace water main (phase 3 of 3).

6E. Replacement of 1955 water tank on Massapoag Avenue
$1,500,000 in funds are requested to replace the 1955 water tank on Massapoag Avenue. This is a multi-year project for which fund allocation is spread over multiple Town Meetings.

6F. Replacing or relining water distribution pipes and constructing a pump station to facilitate an emergency supply connection to the MWRA system via the Town of Norwood
$150,000 in cash towards continuation of an ongoing project for which Town Meeting has previously approved funding (this is a multi-year project and funds were/are requested each year as needed)

6G. Replacement of water meters
$1,000,000 to be borrowed towards a town-wide water meter replacement project.

6H. Purchase of equipment for the Water Department
$205,000 to be borrowed towards the purchase of a Large Dump Truck/Plow. This vehicle would replace a large dump truck (1996 model) for the Water Department.

The initial budget estimates used for appropriation requests in FY2019 and FY2020 were compiled both pre-COVID and prior to design changes necessary to accommodate resident concerns. These changed conditions led to additional pre-construction subsurface evaluation efforts of a less advantageous site location, subsequent design modification and re-filing with the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) as well as purchase of the property adjacent to the present tank site. The additional construction cost necessary to

accommodate all interested parties was considered by the ZBA in their decision, but the tank is expected to last 75 years, consequently, the interests of future Sharon residents were also taken into account.

Several economic factors may impact project cost: structural steel cost has been volatile post-COVID which may reduce material cost, but labor health considerations may have the opposite impact.

The additional $1.5 million requested in this article, coupled with remaining, previously authorized funds, will result in a total authorization of $4.065 million, an amount which is considered sufficient funding to complete the project. The total amount appropriated would include a contingency (reserve) of about $100,000. Because of the status of the Water Department as an Enterprise Fund, unspent allocation would be returned to the Water Department as retained earnings which are used to offset costs, including reduced borrowing, of future projects.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Project	**Budget Source**	**Amount**
Purchase of district wide technology - projectors	Cash	$30,000
Replacement of district wide computer technology (annual)	Cash	$40,000
Replacement of Elementary iPad carts	Cash	$90,000
Total		**$160,000**

6I. $30,000 in cash towards purchasing new projectors. There are 250 projectors district-wide, with 100 projectors/interactive whiteboards currently in need of replacement. Annual tech replacement for those is beginning to be cycled rather than replacement in aggregate every few years.
$40,000 in cash towards replacement of lab and computer technology. It is the goal of the School Department to work toward replacement of 20 percent of all computer devices every year, as opposed to replacing all devices all at once every few years. This year's requests are in line with that goal.
$90,000 in cash towards replacement of Elementary Schools iPad carts. The current carts are outdated and need to be replaced as part of the standard technology replacement cycle.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

6J. Purchase of equipment by the Fire Department
$102,766 to be borrowed and $97,234 in unexpended capital funds (for $200,000 total) towards purchase of new radio repeaters. Sharon Fire / EMS has a need for radio repeaters to address "dead spot" issues identified across town. These are areas in which communication reception between first responders is compromised.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

6K. Purchase of equipment by the Police Department
$100,000 by cash from general fund to be raised and appropriated for the purchase of two vehicles as part of an annual replacement program. These vehicles will be hybrids. The police department has calculated that, at approximately $3,600 per year and vehicle, the fuel savings associated with purchasing hybrid vehicles over the life of the vehicles, will noticeably exceed the additional upfront cost to purchase them (an extra $8,000 per vehicle).

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

	Description	Funding Source	Amount	Department Sub-Totals
	CIVIL DEFENSE			
6A	Building construction - additional funding	B	50,000.00	
	Civil Defense Subtotal			50,000.00
	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS			
6B	Purchase of large dump truck/plow	B	245,000.00	
6B	Purchase of small dump truck/plow	B	80,000.00	
6C	Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks East St from Paul Revere to Ames	B	95,000.00	
6C	Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks Gunhouse St from Beach St to East Foxboro St	B	104,000.00	
6C	Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks Dedham St from Edge Hill Rd to Canton St	B	142,500.00	
6C	Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks Old Post Road from Pine St to Walpole St	B	124,500.00	
	DPW Subtotal			791,000.00
	WATER DEPARTMENT			
6D	Relaying of water mains	WB	500,000.00	
6E	Massapoag Avenue Water Tank - additional funding	WB	1,500,000.00	
6F	Emergency supply connection to the MWRA system via the Town of Norwood	WC	150,000.00	
6G	Replacement of water meters	WB	1,000,000.00	
6H	Purchase of large dump truck/plow	WB	205,000.00	
	Water Dept. Subtotal			3,355,000.00
	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT			
6I	Purchase of district wide technology - projectors	C	30,000.00	
6I	Replacement of district wide computer technology (annual)	C	40,000.00	
6I	Replacement of Elementary iPad carts	C	90,000.00	
	School Dept. Subtotal			160,000.00
	FIRE DEPARTMENT			
6J	Purchase of radio repeaters	B	102,766.00	
6J	Purchase of ice rescue snowmobile	UC	97,234.00	
	Fire Dept. Subtotal			200,000.00
	POLICE DEPARTMENT			
6K	Replacement of two police cruisers (2)	C	100,000.00	
	Police Dept. Subtotal			100,000.00

SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES:		
BORROW (NON-EXEMPT)	B	943,766.00
CASH CAPITAL	C	260,000.00
UNEXPENDED CAPITAL FUNDS	UC	97,234.00
WATER BORROW (NON-EXEMPT)	WB	3,205,000.00
WATER CASH (Water Rates)	WC	150,000.00
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES		***4,656,000.00***

Chromebooks and related distance learning items being funded for schools from CARES Act 230,000.00

Items pre-funded from FINCOM FY 20 Reserves:

Schools SPED Vans	65,000.00	
Schools Classroom Furniture	40,000.00	
DPW - Truck - Forest & Grounds	36,000.00	
DPW - Community Center - Audio Closet	12,500.00	
Recreation Dept. - Outdoor AEDs	27,540.00	
Recreation Dept. - Used Pickup Truck	20,000.00	201,040.00

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **2/3 vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS:

[6A]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $50,000 for additional funding for the construction of a building for Civil Defense; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $50,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6B]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $325,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for the Department of Public Works; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $325,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6C]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $466,000 for the resurfacing of public ways and for the reconstruction of sidewalks for the Department of Public Works; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $466,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6D]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $500,000 for the relaying of water mains for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $500,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6E]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $1,500,000 for additional funding for the replacement of the Massapoag Avenue Water Tank for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $1,500,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6F]
That the Town raise from water rates the sum of $150,000 for the MWRA emergency connection pipe improvements and pump station for the Water Department.

[6G]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $1,000,000 for the replacement of water meters for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $1,000,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6H]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $205,000 for the purchase of equipment for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $205,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6I]
That the Town raise from taxation the sum of $160,000 for the purchase of additional departmental technology equipment for the School Department.

[6J]
That the Town appropriate the sum of $200,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for the Fire Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow $102,766 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7, and the remainder, $97,234, to be expended from previously approved but unexpended capital funds.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6K]
That the Town raise from taxation the sum of $100,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for the Police Department.

Article 7: **Community Preservation Act Annual Funding & Projects**

Sponsored by: *Community Preservation Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee as follows: That the following amounts be appropriated or reserved from Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation Fund Revenues or CPA Fund Balance for Community Preservation purposes with each item considered a separate appropriation:

That the Town raise and appropriate the funds as shown in the breakdown below:

APPROPRIATIONS:

Purpose	Recommended Amount	Funding Source
Budget – Salaries	$5,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues
Budget – Expenses	$10,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues

(Community Preservation Committee Annual Funding – To raise and appropriate up to 5% of the Town's portion of the expected Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation Fund Revenues, to permit the Community Preservation Committee to expend funds as it deems necessary for its administrative and operating expenses, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch.44B, Sec 6 and amendments thereof.)

DEBT SERVICE

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $99,445 for Rattlesnake Hill (Open Space) project debt service from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues.

RESERVES/PROJECTS:

Purpose	Recommended Amount	Funding Source
Open Space/Recreation Projects	$362,190	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues
Historic Resources Projects	$70,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues
Historic Resources – Reservation	$6,600	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues
Community Housing - Reservation	$76,600	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues
Fund Balance Reserve for CPA	$136,165	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues

Project	Category	Amount	Funding Source	Description
Ames Street Softball Complex Lights	Recreation	$295,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the installation of a lighting system for one softball field at the Ames Street Softball Complex for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of $295,000 to the Recreation Department for such purposes.

Deborah Sampson Tennis Court Updates	Recreation	$35,202	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the installation of a wind screen for existing tennis courts for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of $35,202 to the Recreation Department for such purposes.
Field A Conversion at Deborah Sampson Baseball Complex	Recreation	$31,988	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for one field conversion to accommodate a "50-70" Intermediate Diamond for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of $31,988 to the Sharon Youth Baseball and Softball Association for such purposes.
Mann's Pond Dam Historic Trail Project	Historic	$45,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for engineering and project plan work to provide various improvements of the existing walking trails below Mann's Pond Dam into a historical walking trail, for historic purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of $45,000 to the Department of Public Works for such purposes.
Historic Henry Jenks Fountain	Historic	$25,000	FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for the restoration of and site preparation for the historic Henry Jenks Foundation for historic purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of $25,000 to the Department of Public Works for such purposes.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article will appropriate and reserve the sum of $766,000 from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) as follows:

Administrative Expenses:

$ 5,000	Budget-Salaries
$ 10,000	Budget-Expenses
$ 15,000	

Debt Servicing:

$ 99,445	Rattlesnake Hill project debt service from FY 2021 revenues

Projects Appropriation/Reservations:

$ 362,190	For Open Space/Recreation Projects from FY 2021 revenues
$ 70,000	For Historic Resources Projects from FY 2021 revenues
$ 6,600	For Historic Resources from FY 2021 revenues
$ 76,600	Community Housing - Reservation from FY 2021 revenues
$ 136,165	Fund Balance Reserve for CPA from FY 2021 revenues
$ 651,555	

The Community Preservation Act requires that annually the fund reserve or appropriate 10% of its revenues for each of the prescribed categories – Open Space (including recreational), Historic Preservation, and Affordable Housing – with the balance to be used in any of the three designated areas.

The total of $651,555 for appropriation/reservations, $99,445 for debt servicing, and the $15,000 for administrative expenses represents the allocations described. Any unused amount from administrative expense is returned to the undesignated fund balance reserved for future project requests.

The CPC recommends that the Town fund the above projects from current revenues and accumulated/current Reserves.

There were several projects put before that CPC that were not voted to be brought to the Finance Committee. Many of these projects were initially listed as Capital Outlay funding requests, that were withdrawn before the Capital Outlay Committee voted. Projects not receiving funding for the coming fiscal year may be reviewed for funding again in the future.

There was no request for funds for affordable housing for the coming fiscal year as there are no current affordable housing projects.

The Community Preservation Committee voted 7-0-0 in favor of approval.
The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED:

Project	For	Against	Abstain
Administrative Expenses	10	0	0
Debt Service	10	0	0
Ames Street Softball Complex Lights	10	0	0
Deborah Sampson Tennis Court Updates	10	0	0
Field A Conversion at Deborah Sampson Baseball Complex	10	0	0
Mann's Pond Dam Historic Trail Project	10	0	0
Historic Henry Jenks Fountain	3	7	0

Discussion around the historic fountain included that when the fountain project was originally raised by the Select Board, there was no disclosure that there would be additional costs for restoration and installation. Grant and town monies were used to purchase the fountain. Several members of the Finance Committee felt that this project can be postponed with no detriment to the fountain itself.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town hear and act upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee as follows: By raising and appropriating the sum of $15,000 of the Town's portion of the expected Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation Fund revenues, to permit the Community

Preservation Committee to expend funds as it deems necessary for its administrative and operating expenses, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44B, § 6 and amendments thereof; to authorize the Community Preservation reserve from Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation Fund Estimated Revenues the following: $362,190 for Open Space/Recreation Projects from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $70,000 for Historic Resources Projects from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $6,600 for Historic Resources – Reservation from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $76,600 for Community Housing – Reservation from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; and $136,165 for Fund Reserve Balance for CPA from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues.

That the Town raise and appropriate $99,445 for Rattlesnake Hill (Open Space) project debt service from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues.

That the following amounts be appropriated or reserved from Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation Fund Revenues, unless otherwise specified, for Fiscal Year 2021 Community Preservation purposes with each item considered a separate appropriation: $295,000 for Recreation for lights at Ames Street Softball Complex from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $35,202 for Recreation for updates at Deborah Sampson tennis courts from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $31,988 for Recreation for field conversion at Deborah Sampson baseball complex from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $45,000 for Historic for engineering and project plan work Mann's Pond Dam historic trail project from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues; $25,000 for Historic the restoration of and site preparation for the historic Henry Jenks Foundation from FY2021 Annual Estimated Revenues.

Article 8: **Norfolk County Retirement Annual Assessment**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to pay the Norfolk County Retirement Board for the Annual Assessment costs chargeable to the Town, and determine whether the money shall be provided by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article will allow the Town to pay its assessment costs pertaining to the Norfolk County Retirement. The monies are used to fund pension liabilities of past and current Town employees.

At the time of the vote on this recommendation, the expected appropriation for FY2021 is $4,087,106, which represents a 6.37% increase over last year's obligation of $3,842,292.

Since the Town has no choice but to fund its obligations to Norfolk County Retirement, the Finance Committee voted in favor of approval. Members of the Finance Committee expressed their concern over the ever increasing Town obligation for public sector pensions.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 9: **Unemployment Fund**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the actual costs of benefits paid to former Town employees and chargeable to the Town, and determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article will allow the Town to appropriate $75,000 (unchanged from FY2020) to the Unemployment Fund used to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the expected costs of benefits paid to former Town employees.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 10: **Funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund established to fund the presently unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current town retirees and employees, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by gift, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article would appropriate $350,000 (the same appropriation as FY 2020) to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund ("O.P.E.B. Trust Fund") (G.L. c. 32B, § 20) to be used to fund the unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current Town employees and retirees.

The $350,000 would go into a trust fund that could be invested in appropriate investment vehicles provided under state law and thus would earn interest, lowering the ultimate cost. The trust fund provides the Town with a favorable position with the bond rating authorities, as it demonstrates that the Town is planning for known future liabilities.

Two members of the Finance Committee would prefer to pay for post-employment benefits as incurred rather than setting aside funds in anticipation of a future expense. They believe those funds should remain with the taxpayer; money not spent does not have to be raised as taxes.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-2-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 11: **Funding Assessor Inspection Services**

Sponsored by: *Board of Assessors*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $55,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2021 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article will authorize the Town to pay the services to perform Inspection & Valuation Services for properties within the Town. The budgeted amount is $55,000 for FY2021 appropriation (an increase of $5,000 over FY2020). Funds for these services were previously included in the Assessor's budget, but since FY2019 have been moved to a separate fund to allow unexpended amounts to be carried over from one fiscal year to the next.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 12: **Annual Audit Appropriation**

Sponsored by: *Finance Director*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform an annual audit of fixed assets and audit of accounts of the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2020 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, §40, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article will authorize the Town to pay the costs associated with the Annual Audit of Accounts. The budgeted amount is $59,000 for the FY 2021 appropriation (a decrease of -7.81% over FY 2020).

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 13: **Revolving Fund Authorizations**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize FY 2021 expenditure limits for the revolving funds listed below for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Article III of the Town's General Bylaws:

Revolving Fund	Expenditure Limit
Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund	$20,000.00
Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund	$7,000.00
Library Materials Replacement Fund	$3,500.00
Street Opening Fund	$25,000.00
Solid Waste and Recycling Fund	$1,800,000.00
Community Center Building Maintenance Fund	$100,000.00
High School Parking Lot Fund	$65,000.00
Railroad Parking Fund	$550,000.00
Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	$300,000.00
Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	$150,000.00
Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund	$4,000.00
Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variance	$20,000.00
Health Department Revolving Fund	$40,000.00
Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund	$25,000.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this pro forma Article authorizes each of the different revolving funds for Fiscal Year 2021.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

Article 14: **General Bylaw Change: Increase Expenditure Limits for Certain Revolving Funds**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 24, Article III, Section 24-21 by increasing the restrictions on expenditure limits for each fiscal year for the following Revolving Funds as follows:

Council on Aging – increase from $25,000 to $50,000 (as authorized by Article 13 of the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting)

Recreation Programs – increase from $300,000 to $400,000

Waterfront Recreation Programs – increase from $150,000 to $200,000

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this Article would increase the Revolving Fund limits for the following:

- Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund from $25,000 to $50,000,
- Recreation Programs Revolving Fund from $300,000 to $400,000 and
- Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund from $150,000 to $200,000

Revolving Funds are income gained from fees paid by program participants and a mechanism that permits programs to carry forward income to support programs in following years. A Revolving Fund increase would not impact property taxes. All monies in a Revolving Fund are spent on program expenses.

Both the Council on Aging and the Recreation Department have been entrepreneurial in expanding program offerings. An increase in the fund limit would permit them to continue to expand offerings and to engage more citizens in those programs.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 15: Property Tax Exemptions

Sponsored by: Department of Veterans' Services

To see if the Town will vote to accept Section 4, Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and Chapter 380 of the Acts of 2000, which authorizes additional real estate exemptions to be granted to persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of this Article would authorize the Board of Assessors to grant estate exemptions in FY2021 for specific categories of veterans and their survivors, individuals with disabilities, individuals who are legally blind and qualified elders.

The Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 16: **Naming the Driveway to the Public Safety Building and DPW Facility "Joe Roach Way"**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to General Bylaws Part I: Administrative Legislation, Chapter 61, Article II, to name the driveway to the Public Safety Building and Department of Public Works Facility as Joe Roach Way,

or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this article would name the driveway of the Public Safety & Public Works complex off South Main Street as "Joe Roach Way." Walter "Joe" Roach was a lifelong resident of the Town of Sharon who gave generously of his time through public service; after serving as a call firefighter for the Sharon Fire Department and working for the Sharon Public Schools, he served on many boards and committees, most notably as a member of Sharon's Select Board for twenty years. As such, the naming of the driveway where the three largest municipal departments are headquartered is a fitting tribute to Joe and his dedication to our town.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **2/3 vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town vote, pursuant to General Bylaws Part I: Administrative Legislation, Chapter 61, Article II, to name the driveway to the Public Safety Building and Department of Public Works Facility as Joe Roach Way.

Article 17: **Acquire Six Acres of Land to be Known as 60R Cedar Street as Conservation Land**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended by the Select Board for the acquisition by purchase or otherwise, a parcel of land containing approximately 6.0 acres of land, identified as "60R Cedar Street," which is a portion of the land described in the deed to Temple Adath Sharon, recorded at the Norfolk Registry District of the Land Court in Certificate of Title No. 27523, and is shown on the "Civil Defense Building Land SWAP Map" dated January 21, 2020, attached hereto and available at the office of the Town Clerk, and is acquired for the purposes of dedication to public outdoor recreational use and open space purposes under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, in exchange for the removal of the land shown as Parcel T on said Map from parkland restrictions as described below.

Parcel T is a portion of the property known as the Sacred Heart Site, which was acquired by the Town by deed of the Order of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of New England, Inc. dated December 26, 1974 and recorded in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds in Book 5099, Page 169 and as shown on a plan entitled "Plot

Plan of Sacred Heart Property, Sharon, Mass." dated June 1973 by the Sharon Engineering Department which plan is recorded in said Registry as Plan Number 1102 of 1974, Plan Book 247.

And further, to seek the approval of the Legislature and/or the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, to allow Parcel T to be used for purposes other than protected parkland and public outdoor recreation, specifically, for construction of municipal civil defense building(s) and related facilities and/or parking.

And further that, pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 40, section 15A, to authorize the Select Board to transfer the care, custody, management and control of Parcel T be transferred from the Select Board for outdoor recreational purposes to the care, custody, management and control of the Select Board for general municipal purposes and/or for the purpose of construction of municipal building(s) and related facilities and/or parking.

And further that the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, are authorized to execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

And to authorize the Select Board, as additional consideration for 60R Cedar Street, to convey to Temple Adath Sharon the property known and numbered as 14 Harding Street, containing 0.11 acres of land, more or less, which property is described in a Tax Lien Judgment in favor of the Town recorded in the Norfolk Registry District of the Land Court as Document 1143386, and the property known and numbered as 76 East Foxboro Street, containing 0.15 acres of land, more or less, which property is described in a Low Value Tax Taking in favor of the Town recorded in said Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 1412169.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

CIVIL DEFENSE LAND SWAP PROPOSAL

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this article will authorize a land swap between the Town of Sharon and Temple Adath Sharon. In exchange for two smaller parcels nearby, the Town will acquire six acres of land currently owned by the temple. To facilitate the development of the Civil Defense building on South Main Street, the town will then restrict this acquisition as conservation land.

After approval of the construction of a garage to house Civil Defense equipment passed at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, it was determined that the land identified to satisfy the no-net-loss provisions of Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution was unsuitable to meet such requirements. The mechanism by which the property was acquired in the 1970's with federal dollars rendered it ineligible.

The Town has collaborated with Temple Adath to work out a land swap, shown on the map above. These smaller parcels along Cedar Street will be eligible for Article 97 protection of undeveloped land and will be used to allow the Civil Defense garage project to move forward. The Finance Committee feels this swap is a mutually beneficial transaction.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town transfer $15,000 from Free Cash to be expended by the Select Board for the acquisition by purchase or otherwise, a parcel of land containing approximately 6.0 acres of land, identified as "60R Cedar Street," which is a portion of the land described in the deed to Temple Adath Sharon, recorded at the Norfolk Registry District of the Land Court in Certificate of Title No. 27523, and is shown on the "Civil Defense Building Land SWAP Map" dated January 21, 2020, attached hereto and available at the office of the Town Clerk, and is acquired for the purposes of dedication to public outdoor recreational use and open space purposes under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, in exchange for the removal of the land shown as Parcel T on said Map from parkland restrictions as described below.

Parcel T is a portion of the property known as the Sacred Heart Site, which was acquired by the Town by deed of the Order of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of New England, Inc. dated December 26, 1974 and recorded in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds in Book 5099, Page 169 and as shown on a plan entitled "Plot Plan of Sacred Heart Property, Sharon, Mass." dated June 1973 by the Sharon Engineering Department which plan is recorded in said Registry as Plan Number 1102 of 1974, Plan Book 247.

That the Town seek the approval of the Legislature and/or the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, to allow Parcel T to be used for purposes other than protected parkland and public outdoor recreation, specifically, for construction of municipal civil defense building(s) and related facilities and/or parking.

And further that, pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 40, section 15A, to authorize the Select Board to transfer the care, custody, management and control of Parcel T be transferred from the Select Board for outdoor recreational purposes to the care, custody, management and control of the Select Board for general municipal purposes and/or for the purpose of construction of municipal building(s) and related facilities and/or parking.

And further that the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, are authorized to execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

That the Town authorize the Select Board, as additional consideration for 60R Cedar Street, to convey to Temple Adath Sharon the property known and numbered as 14 Harding Street, containing 0.11 acres of land, more or less, which property is described in a Tax Lien Judgment in favor of the Town recorded in the Norfolk Registry District of the Land Court as Document 1143386, and the property known and numbered as 76 East Foxboro Street, containing 0.15 acres of land, more or less, which property is described in a Low Value Tax Taking in favor of the Town recorded in said Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 1412169.

Article 18: Citizen Petition – General Bylaw Change: Artificial Turf Field Moratorium

Sponsored by: Debbie Tatro, 10 Sturges Road, and 14 others

To see if the Town of Sharon will vote to amend its General Bylaws Part I: Administrative Legislation, Chapter 61: Public Property, by adding a new Article III: Artificial Turf Field Moratorium, as follows:

ARTICLE III
Artificial Turf Field Moratorium

§61-5 Artificial Turf Field Moratorium in the Town of Sharon

A. Purpose. The purpose of this moratorium is to protect Lake Massapoag, and the town's wetlands, rivers, streams, ponds, groundwater, drinking water, soil, fish and wildlife, as well as human health. Current artificial turf carpets have known environmental and health hazards. They contain toxic chemicals, including flame retardants, plasticizers, and PFAS, a class of synthetic compounds that includes approximately 4,700 chemicals. PFAS are a particular health threat, as they are highly persistent "forever chemicals" that never fully degrade, accumulate in our bodies, and adversely impact human health even at low levels of exposure. A new regulation promulgated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection establishes a drinking water standard of 20 parts per trillion for the sum of six specific PFAS. Thus, artificial turf installation could potentially contaminate Lake Massapoag, rivers, streams, ponds, ground water, soil and drinking water in the Town of Sharon by leaching chemicals. Plastic grass blades also break off artificial turf and would be blown by the wind to surrounding areas where they would break down into microplastic which does not fully degrade, thereby threatening to contaminate the nearby natural areas with PFAS, microplastics and other chemicals. Current infill materials are also problematic: crumb rubber from scrap tires is likely toxic, organic infill must be watered to get it to stay in place, and can freeze, which requires the addition of anti-freeze substances to prevent athlete falls. Artificial turf carpets are produced from petroleum. They are also not currently recyclable in the U.S. One facility in Pennsylvania collects turf fields for "recycling", but only recycles the crumb rubber that is removed from the plastic carpet. Current plastic artificial turf fields are also not biodegradable or compostable.

B. Definitions
ARTIFICIAL TURF shall mean any grass turf carpet composed of petroleum-based plastic, whether or not the plastic turf contains PFAS.

PFAS shall mean a class of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances.

C. Regulated Conduct
The Town of Sharon shall not install artificial turf on any land, of any size, owned by the Town, for a period of three years from the effective date of the moratorium.

D. Exemptions.
Synthetic turf grass carpets made of plant-based bioplastic which is entirely biodegradable or compostable, and is certified to be free of PFAS.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Proponent's Statement of Rationale
A three-year moratorium allows time to study the environmental and financial implications of artificial (plastic) turf, either of which could be substantial.

The initial cost of a plastic athletic field is $1 million, and the 20-ton plastic carpet must be discarded and replaced every 8 years, a substantial recurring expense. Athletic field maintenance experts have quoted that the existing grass field could be improved at an initial cost of $7,500 (Tom Irwin Advisors), or renovated with new premier sod for $200K (Sports Turf Specialties). Many studies indicate annualized life-cycle costs are less for natural grass *vs.* artificial turf. A properly maintained grass field can provide twice as much playing time as the current fields see, allowing the town to increase playing opportunities without artificial turf.

A plastic field at the high school would threaten multiple natural resources: adjacent wetland, Lake Massapoag and drinking water. Plastic turf also breaks down into microplastics, which accumulate in soil. The plastic carpet may contain PFAS chemicals that do not biodegrade, and accumulate in soil, water, and ultimately our bodies. PFAS chemicals are associated with health issues at low exposures, leading the MassDEP to implement strict drinking water standards (1000-fold less than standards for other known toxins). This has public health implications as well as financial costs if abatement of these chemicals is required in the future.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this citizens' petition would amend Town Bylaws by adding a new Section 61-5, which would impose a three-year moratorium on the installation in any Town location of artificial (synthetic) turf fields containing petroleum-based plastic, whether or not the turf contains PFAS, which is a class of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances. The proposed Bylaw amendment is particularly relevant in anticipation of new athletic fields being installed at the high school site in connection with the construction of a new high school complex.

The arguments in favor of a moratorium are summarized above in the proponent's statement and a case for synthetic turf has been made by consultants hired by the Sharon Standing Building Committee as part of the new Sharon High School project. In a presentation to the Finance Committee on April 23, 2020, Warner Larson Landscape Architects, compared the costs and usability of synthetic turf and natural grass athletic fields in the context of the new high school. The presentation referenced year-round sports program needs (including school programming and youth and rec leagues) totaling 1348 hours, which a synthetic field would be able to accommodate, while a newly reconstructed grass field with amended soil would allow for an estimated annual use of 500 hours. Natural grass fields are unusable after heavy rains. The increased available usage of a synthetic field could alleviate wear and tear on the Town's nine other grass playing fields.

On a total dollar cost basis as presented by Warner Larson, natural grass would be the less expensive option over both an 8-year and 16-year time frame. The projected 8-year lifecycle cost for synthetic turf is estimated to be $1.1M ($993,200 install plus $10,500 annual maintenance) compared to $725K ($457,000 initial plus $33,960 annual maintenance) for natural grass. The warranty for the proposed synthetic turf field is limited to eight years, at which time the top layer (carpet and infill) would be replaced. The next layer down, the shock pad, lasts for 2 or more turf lifecycles. As a result, over a 16-year period, the cost comparison is $1.7M (includes a $550,000 renovation after 8 years) for synthetic turf compared to $1.2M for natural grass. However, when factoring in the projected hours of use that have been identified, the costs on a per hour basis tip in favor of synthetic turf. On a cost per hour of use basis, synthetic turf projects to be roughly half the cost of natural grass over both an 8-year and 16-year timeframe. This cost advantage clearly depends on the realized use of the fields.

While this proposed moratorium is not specific to the high school site, members of the Finance Committee shared concerns around environmental impact to the natural resources at that location, namely Lake Massapoag, the adjacent wetlands and groundwater. The synthetic turf field proposed for that site would utilize an organic infill made of engineered wood particles from sustainably grown and harvested pine trees, rather than crumb rubber, to minimize risk of environmental contamination. An independent study conducted by Dr. David Teeter and presented to the Standing Building Committee on January 21, 2020 concluded that environmental risk was minimized by these selections.

The majority of Finance Committee members felt that the due diligence conducted by the Standing Building Committee highlighted the potential value and acceptable risk profile of a synthetic turf field in an

appropriate site, making a town-wide three-year moratorium unwarranted. The minority members believe that arguments in favor of the moratorium outweigh the arguments against it.

The Standing Building Committee voted 7 to 3 in favor of the installation of synthetic turf at the new high school complex. While this was not a vote on this article, it demonstrates opposition to this citizen's petition. In contrast, the Conservation Commission, which has ultimate authority in the matter, voted 5 to 2 against installing synthetic turf at the high school site. If this proposed moratorium should fail to pass, installation of a synthetic turf field at the high school site would require a successful appeal of the Conservation Commission's vote. The recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding the proposed moratorium should not be interpreted as a vote in favor of synthetic turf at any specific location or a vote in favor of an appeal of the Conservation Commission's decision.

The Board of Health voted 0-4-1 in favor of approval.
The Select Board voted 2-1-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 2-9-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. THE COMMITTEE IS NOT RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THIS ARTICLE.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend its General Bylaws Part I: Administrative Legislation, Chapter 61: Public Property, by adding a new Article III: Artificial Turf Field Moratorium, exactly as printed on pages 36 through 38 of the warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or take any other action relative thereto."

Article 19: **Citizen Petition – General Bylaw Change: Limit Use of Recycled Pavement to Existing Impervious Surface**

Sponsored by: *Richard Kramer, 77 Beach Street, and 18 others*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Bylaws by adding the following Chapter 228, Section 1 through Section 9, or act in any other way related thereto:

Chapter 228 Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP)

Section 1 Purpose.

The purposes of this bylaw are to protect public health by protecting the public from exposure to hazardous materials present in Recycled Asphalt Pavement and to protect groundwater, surface waters, and wetlands from contamination by hazardous materials present in Recycled Asphalt Pavement.

Section 2 Definitions.

Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP):

Recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) shall mean asphalt millings (the material produced from the milling of roads before repaving) and pieces of asphaltic roadway pavement removed from the roadway surface or roadway sub base, or from other asphalt-paved surfaces such as parking lots and driveways.

Section 3 Nature of the public and environmental hazards.

The bitumen binder used in asphalt paving applications contains a high concentration of a family of organic compounds together with high levels of heavy metals including lead, chromium, and arsenic that has the potential to pose human health and environmental concerns in certain circumstances, especially when asphalt material is converted into RAP by milling it into very small particles which easily contaminate the body and clothing of people coming into contact with it, easily blow off of or wash from the surface, and continuously leach into the ground due to the action of sunlight, rain, and snow melt. RAP used alone, without a paved top surface, has the potential to significantly migrate from the roadway through the actions of sun, water, wind, and physical displacement and possibly contaminate surrounding soils and/or surface water sediments. Persons or vehicles moving on the unpaved RAP could generate dust containing the compounds referenced above and the dust would be a major migration route of the RAP to the surrounding environment.

Section 4 Allowed Uses.

RAP may be used for roadway and parking area soil aggregate sub base material, if the RAP is placed directly beneath, and fully contained by, a paved road surface of either hot mix asphalt or Portland cement concrete.

Section 5 Prohibited uses.

A. The following uses of RAP are prohibited:

i. as final surfacing material;
ii. as fill material;
iii. as roadway sub base material within less than two (2) feet above the mean annual high water level at the site of placement.

Section 6 Prohibition of stockpiling or storage.

Stockpiling or storage of RAP is prohibited within Water Resource Protection districts. Stockpiling or storage of RAP is prohibited within one thousand (1,000) feet of any bank, freshwater wetland, vernal pool, beach, flat, marsh, wet meadow, bog, swamp, or lands bordering on any creek, river, stream, or any pond, lake, or any land under said waters, or any land subject to storm flowage, or flooding, or inundation by groundwater or surface water.

Section 7 Enforcement violations and penalties.

The Board of Health shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. The Board of Health shall require expeditious correction of any violation within the shortest reasonable time. If the party responsible for a violation shall fail to remedy such violation within the time frame provided for in the order to correct, the Board may cause the violation to be corrected and all expenses incurred thereby shall constitute a debt due to the Town. The sum so expended may be
recovered by the Town of Sharon as provided in MGL c. 111, Section 125 or in an action of contract by the Town against the owner.

Enforcement may also be sought by civil process, criminal process or by noncriminal disposition as provided in MGL c. 40, Section 21D, MGL c. 111, Section 187.

Failure to comply with provisions of this regulation will result in the levy of fines of not less than $200 per day for the first 10 days, $500 per day for days 15 through 30, and $1,000 per day for

each day thereafter.

If the Board of Health shall, for any reason, fail to act to cause timely correction of a violation, the Conservation Commission and the Select Board shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

Section 8 Correction of pre existing conditions

Protection of public and environmental health requires that any use of RAP in violation of this Chapter which exists prior to the effective date of this Chapter shall be corrected as timely as reasonable but in any case shall be corrected within 120 days of the effective date of this Chapter.

Section 9 Severability.

The invalidity of any section or provision of this bylaw shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof, nor shall it invalidate any order of conditions which previously have become final.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this citizens' petition would amend the Town Bylaws by adding a new Chapter 228 to the Bylaws prohibiting the use of Recycled Asphalt Pavement ("RAP") as a final resurfacing material, as a fill material, and as a roadway sub base material within less than two feet above the mean annual high water level at the site of placement. In addition, stockpiling of RAP would be prohibited in any Water Protection Resource district and within 1,000 feet of any delineated wetland areas. The use of RAP would be permitted for roadway and parking area soil aggregate sub-base material, if the RAP is placed directly underneath, and is contained by a paved road surface of hot mix asphalt or cement concrete.

Section 8 of the proposed bylaw would require that use of RAP in violation of the bylaw existing prior to enactment "shall be corrected as timely as reasonable but in any case, shall be corrected within 120 days of the effective date" of the new Chapter 228. The proposed bylaw would impose fines for failure to comply as follows: fines of "not less than" $200 per day for the first 10 days of noncompliance; $500 per day for days 15 through 30 of noncompliance; and $1,000 per day for each day thereafter. (Town Counsel states that it is not proper for a bylaw to state fines of "not less than" a certain figure; rather, the bylaw must state a specified amount. Furthermore, M.G.L. c. 40, s.21 sets a maximum fine amount of $300 per day for violations of Town bylaws).

The proposed bylaw provides for enforcement by the Board of Health, but upon failure of the Board of Health to enforce the bylaw in a timely manner, the Conservation Commission and the Select Board shall enforce the provisions of the bylaw. If the responsible party, after notice, fails to correct the problem, the Board of Health may cause the violation to be corrected, and the costs of such correction would constitute a debt to the Town (presumably owed by the violator, though that is not specified.) The bylaw provides for enforcement under criminal or civil process pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 40, section 21D, and chapter 111, sections 125 and 187. In cases where the violator may be the Town itself, it is not clear how the enforcement mechanism would work.

The proponent of this citizens' petition is motivated by the recent placement of RAP by the Department of Public Works along the trail that encircles Deborah Sampson Park. The DPW utilized RAP in response to a request by the high school athletic department asserting that the trail became muddy after heavy rain, impeding use of the trail by the cross-country team. At present, the trail appears to be a dirt trail covered by a mixture of leaves and pine needles, mixed in with RAP, which takes the form of pebble sized bits of asphalt. Unless someone was paying special attention, the presence of RAP on the trail would not be noticeable.

According to the proponent, toxins and heavy metals present in RAP pose a significant health risk and environmental hazard. The toxic materials could endanger the health of people who walk along the trail at Deborah Sampson Park and also seep into groundwater and contaminate the Lake and the Town's drinking water. The proponent states that several states already ban or restrict the use of RAP unless the underlayer of RAP is sealed by a pavement cover.

According to Superintendent of Public Works Eric Hooper, RAP is regulated in Massachusetts as a solid waste. While contaminants are potentially present, they do not rise to a level of concern because the concentrations are not high enough to cause adverse health consequences. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), cited by the proponent as problematic, are not easily transported into groundwater and are not persistent over time. Testing of groundwater at monitoring wells located adjacent to the trail, most recently on October 7, 2019, did not reveal the presence of any RAP related contaminants.

There would be an undetermined expense to remove and dispose of the RAP material from the Deborah Sampson Park trails. More significantly, there would be additional expense to all future Town road repair projects. Currently, when the DPW repaves roads, it removes the top asphalt layer of the road which it stockpiles at a site off of Oakland Road. According to Mr. Hooper, as asphalt is torn up from the road being repaired, a line of Town trucks transports it to the Town site. The proposed bylaw would prohibit this practice. If removed RAP could not be stored, the Town would have to transport it out of town to a reclamation facility. The nearest one is currently located in Avon. This process would necessitate the use of contractors to remove the RAP to the out of town facility because using Town-owned trucks to drive back and forth to Avon would inordinately delay the work. Additionally, recycling facilities do not always have the capacity to accept RAP. As is the general practice in other towns, the Town transports stockpiled RAP to the reclamation facility as Town-owned trucks become available, generally during a six-month time frame. According to Mr. Hooper, the additional cost due to prohibition of temporary storage of RAP within Town would substantially increase the cost of road repair projects.

Upon Town Counsel's review of the proposed bylaw amendment, in addition to the issues raised concerning fines as discussed above, there are concerns regarding the following:

a) Section 8 could be interpreted as directing Town boards or officials or State agencies to take action which is discretionary and require the appropriation of money;
b) that a State regulation, 310 CMR 19.00 already governs disposal of RAP;
c) the proposed bylaw might conflict with existing zoning and planning decisions that dictate construction methods for roadways (which, in Town Counsel's opinion, would be grandfathered);
d) the proposed bylaw might conflict with Planning Board Rules and Regulations governing roadway construction

The Finance Committee has reservations that the Town is not equipped to conduct the scientific investigation necessary to make an informed decision on the advisability of enacting this bylaw; that it is more appropriate for decisions of this nature to be made at the State or Federal level. Specifically, in the case of the trails at Deborah Sampson Park, adherence to the plan to properly cover the RAP, as was intended prior to halting the project, is a reasonable and cost-effective solution. The Finance Committee is concerned about the expense involved in removing the RAP from the Deborah Sampson Park trails. It is even more concerned that significant expense would be added to future roadway reconstruction if the Town is unable to stockpile RAP as it does now.

A copy of the full petition containing supporting information by petitioners as presented to the Select Board is on file with the Town Clerk as well as on the website at:
https://www.townofsharon.net/town-administrator-select-board/pages/town-meeting-warrants

The Board of Health voted 0-5 in favor of approval.
The Select Board voted 0-3 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 0-11-0 IN FAVOR; AND IS NOT RECOMMENDING APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

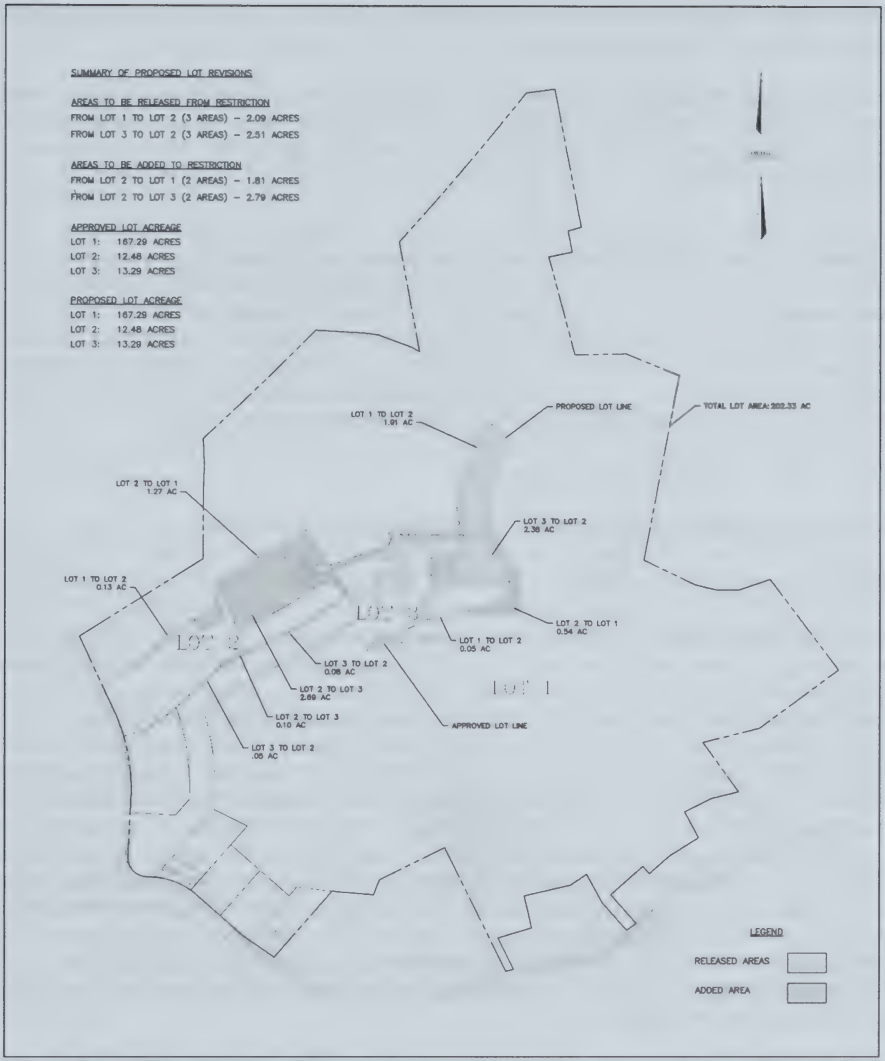
ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend its General Bylaws Part II: General Legislation by adding a new chapter, Chapter 228: Recycled Asphalt Pavement, exactly as printed on pages 39 to 41 of the warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or act in any other way related thereto."

Article 20: **Approve Adjustments to Size of Parcels within Recreational and Residential Overlay District**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to release and relocate those portions of the deed restriction located on property known as 25 Tiot Street, Sharon, Massachusetts, granted to the Town by Grant of Deed Restriction dated April 18, 2018, recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 35927, Page 183, and shown as "Golf Course Lot (167.293 acres)" (Lot 1) and "Multiuse Clubhouse Lot (13.287 acres)" (Lot 3) on a plan entitled ""Plan of Land The Cape Club of Sharon 25 Tiot Street, Sharon, MA Prepared for Cape Club Builders, LLC" prepared by Coneco Engineers & Scientists, 4 First Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02324, dated March 27, 2018," recorded in said Deeds in Plan Book 668, Page 73. The portions of said restriction to be released are located and as shown on "Released Areas" and the new added restriction areas are located and as shown on "Added Areas," on the plan drawn by Center Mount Land Development, LLC entitled Released & Added Parcels – Residential Restrictions – Cape Club", dated August 31, 2020, a copy of which is on file with the Office of the Town Clerk. And further, to authorize the Select Board to accept said amended restriction and undertake any and all actions, enter into any such agreements and execute such documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. It has been determined that the restriction area to be abandoned, as shown on said plan, is no longer required for the purposes stated in the Deed Restriction.

Or to act in any way relative thereto.



FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would allow the release and relocation of a portion of a deed restriction on land located at 25 Tiot Street, at the Spring Valley Country Club property. At the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, the Town voted to approve bylaws, the effect of which, inter alia, was to allow the owner of the golf course to construct 52 townhouse condominium units on the existing golf course property, while preserving the golf course operation. Without this previous action, the owner of the golf course indicated

its intention to develop a conventional as of right housing subdivision on the property, with approximately 52 single family homes, the effect of which would have eliminated the golf course.

Pursuant to the 2018 Annual Town Meeting approval, a deed restriction was granted to the Town, shown on a plan which has been recorded in the Registry of Deeds, which divided the golf course parcel into three lots: Lot 1, the Golf Course lot (167.293 acres); Lot 2, the Town House lot (12.476 acres); and Lot 3, the Club House lot (13.287 acres).

The purpose of this Article is to amend the deed restriction to allow the developer to reconfigure the Town House lot and relocate a number of the proposed town houses and corresponding parking area. The number of town houses (52) and the size of the lot (12.476 acres) would remain unchanged. Allowing relocation of the town houses in this proposed configuration will make the town houses more marketable as views of the golf course, improvements to traffic flow and sight angles from the parking lot would be achieved. While the proposed changes under this Article would benefit the developer, the Town would also benefit. Tax revenues would increase if the values of these town houses increase as a result of this revised layout. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the modifications requested.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town release and relocate those portions of the deed restriction located on property known as 25 Tiot Street, Sharon, Massachusetts, granted to the Town by Grant of Deed Restriction dated April 18, 2018, recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 35927, Page 183, and shown as "Golf Course Lot (167.293 acres)" (Lot 1) and "Multiuse Clubhouse Lot (13.287 acres)" (Lot 3) on a plan entitled ""Plan of Land The Cape Club of Sharon 25 Tiot Street, Sharon, MA Prepared for Cape Club Builders, LLC" prepared by Coneco Engineers & Scientists, 4 First Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02324, dated March 27, 2018," recorded in said Deeds in Plan Book 668, Page 73. The portions of said restriction to be released are located and as shown on "Released Areas" and the new added restriction areas are located and as shown on "Added Areas," on the plan drawn by Center Mount Land Development, LLC entitled Released & Added Parcels – Residential Restrictions – Cape Club", dated August 31, 2020, a copy of which is on file with the Office of the Town Clerk. And further, to authorize the Select Board to accept said amended restriction and undertake any and all actions, enter into any such agreements and execute such documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. It has been determined that the restriction area to be abandoned, as shown on said plan, is no longer required for the purposes stated in the Deed Restriction.

Article 21: Authorize Select Board to Acquire Easements Related to Construction of Traffic Improvements on South Main Street

Sponsored by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 40, section 15A of the General Laws, to transfer the care, custody, and control of a portion of the parcel of land known as 810 South Main Street, Sharon, Massachusetts identified on the Sharon Assessors Map 37 as Parcel 6, or as the same may be more particularly described, (the "parcel") from the Select Board which has determined that said parcel is no longer needed for its current use to the Select Board for the purpose of a Permanent Highway Easement.

The parcel to be transferred contains 11,424 square feet and is a portion shown in red of the plan referenced below.

And further to authorize the Select Board to sell, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of said parcel, or any portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions that the Select Board deems appropriate.

And further to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain the following interests in land, as follows:

> Three (3) separate Permanent Utility Easements (Aerial and at Grade) containing approximately 314 square feet, 462 square feet, and 64 square feet, respectively;
>
> Two (2) separate Permanent Highway Easements containing approximately 462 square feet and 53 square feet, respectively; and
>
> Seven (7) Temporary Construction Easements containing approximately 11,849 square feet, 385 square feet, 775 square feet, 760 square feet, 1,701 square feet, 69 square feet, and 244 square feet respectively.

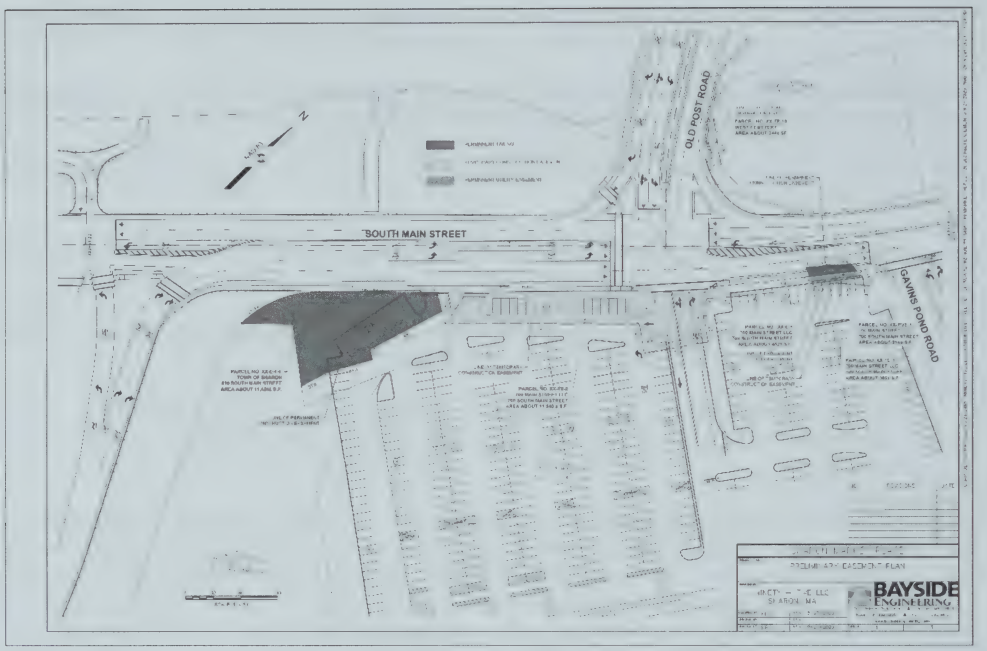
All said interests to be acquired are located (a) along the south-easterly side line of South Main Street between Interstate 95 and Holly Lane, just east of 668 South Main Street, and (b) along the easterly side of Old Post Road at the intersection with South Main Street (658 South Main Street), as generally shown on a plan entitled "Sharon Market Place – Preliminary Easement Plan," dated August 27, 2020, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and as the same may be more or less particularly described, or as such plan may be later identified or amended.

And further to authorize the Select Board to convey such land and easements to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or others, without consideration, for the purpose of the widening of South Main Street, relocating and widening of sidewalks, and the installation and maintenance of traffic lights and pedestrian signals and the maintenance and repairs of public and private utilities at the intersections of Old Post Road and South Main Street and Gavin's Pond Road and South Main Street.

And further to authorize the Select Board to undertake any and all actions, enter into any such agreements and execute such documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing.

And to appropriate $45,820.00 to fund said purchase or taking and any and all fees and costs associated with said fee and/or easement acquisitions, provided that all of said funds are to be reimbursed to the Town by a third party.

Or take any other action relative thereto.


SOUTH MAIN STREET
OLD POST ROAD
GAWINS POND ROAD
BAYSIDE ENGINEERING

OLD POST ROAD
SOUTH MAIN STREET
GAWINS POND ROAD
BAYSIDE ENGINEERING

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize the town to acquire 3 permanent utility easements, 3 permanent highway easements, and 7 temporary construction easements along South Main Street to facilitate the construction of the intersection at the entryway to the development known as Sharon Gallery. Once acquired, said easements will be turned over to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the purposes of widening South Main Street and making improvements to both the intersection and sidewalks.

As shown on the maps above, these easements are for very small amounts of land, and the developer of Sharon Gallery has agreed to fund these acquisitions. Because this action will not cost the town money and move us closer to the completion of the Sharon Gallery project, the Finance Committee supports the article, provided that the four private property owners affected by these easements are compensated.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town vote, pursuant to Chapter 40, section 15A of the General Laws, to transfer the care, custody, and control of a portion of the parcel of land known as 810 South Main Street, Sharon, Massachusetts identified on the Sharon Assessors Map 37 as Parcel 6, or as the same may be more particularly described, (the "parcel") from the Select Board which has determined that said parcel is no longer needed for its current use to the Select Board for the purpose of a Permanent Highway Easement. The parcel to be transferred contains 11,424 square feet and is a portion shown in red of the plan referenced below.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to sell, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of said parcel, or any portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions that the Select Board deems appropriate.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain the following interests in land, as follows:

> Three (3) separate Permanent Utility Easements (Aerial and at Grade) containing approximately 314 square feet, 462 square feet, and 64 square feet, respectively;
>
> Two (2) separate Permanent Highway Easements containing approximately 462 square feet and 53 square feet, respectively; and
>
> Seven (7) Temporary Construction Easements containing approximately 11,849 square feet, 385 square feet, 775 square feet, 760 square feet, 1,701 square feet, 69 square feet, and 244 square feet respectively.

All said interests to be acquired are located (a) along the south-easterly side line of South Main Street between Interstate 95 and Holly Lane, just east of 668 South Main Street, and (b) along the easterly side of Old Post Road at the intersection with South Main Street (658 South Main Street), as generally shown on a plan entitled "Sharon Market Place – Preliminary Easement Plan," dated August 27, 2020, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and as the same may be more or less particularly described, or as such plan may be later identified or amended.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to convey such land and easements to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or others, without consideration, for the purpose of the widening of South Main Street,

relocating and widening of sidewalks, and the installation and maintenance of traffic lights and pedestrian signals and the maintenance and repairs of public and private utilities at the intersections of Old Post Road and South Main Street and Gavin's Pond Road and South Main Street.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to undertake any and all actions, enter into any such agreements and execute such documents as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing.

That the Town appropriate $45,820.00 from Undesignated Fund Balance to fund said purchase or taking and any and all fees and costs associated with said fee and/or easement acquisitions, provided that all of said funds are to be reimbursed to the Town by a third party.

Article 22: **General Bylaw Change: Amend Water Discharge Bylaw to Clarify Right to Lien**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 235 of the General Bylaws Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Article 1, Use Restrictions, by adding the following underlined language after the word "lien" in the last paragraph of Section 235-9.1, Water discharges to the public right-of-way, so that the last paragraph of that section states as follows:

If the Town completes the work and the amount due is not received within 30 days of the notice of billing, the costs shall become a special assessment against the property owner's property and shall constitute a lien for the purposes of MGL c. 40, § 58 on the property owner's property for the amount of such costs until such costs, including interest, are paid in full.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article clarifies, at the recommendation of the state Attorney General's office, the Town's right to lien per the bylaw amendment concerning water discharge which was approved at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

At 2019 Annual Town Meeting, voters approved a bylaw change to General Bylaws Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 235 – Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Article 1, Use Restrictions to prohibit any pumping, draining or discharging of water upon any public way or place in town without prior written approval. This change addresses cases where a resident discharges the outflow from a sump pump in their cellar onto public ways, where seasonally it freezes, creating a public safety hazard caused by icing on sidewalks and streets. The bylaw provides the Town authority to take remedial action in cases when the property owner does not address the problem caused by improper water discharge.

All Town Meeting bylaws are reviewed by the Massachusetts Attorney General's office to ensure they are proper and not in conflict with state statutes (MGL c. 40, § 32). Upon their review, it was deemed that the Town amend the bylaw, specifying the Town's authority under MGL c. 40, § 58, to issue a lien if a property owner does not reimburse the Town for the costs associated with remediation of the safety hazard. The Finance Committee supports adoption of this amendment.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend Chapter 235 of the General Bylaws Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Article 1, Use Restrictions, by adding the following underlined language after the word "lien" in the last paragraph of Section 235-9.1, Water discharges to the public right-of-way, so that the last paragraph of that section states as follows: If the Town completes the work and the amount due is not received within 30 days of the notice of billing, the costs shall become a special assessment against the property owner's property and shall constitute a lien for the purposes of MGL c. 40, § 58 on the property owner's property for the amount of such costs until such costs, including interest, are paid in full.

Article 23: **General Bylaw Change: Amend Chapter 12 to Increase Number of Alternates on Council on Aging Board**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 12, Article VII, Section 12-23 of the General Bylaws, Council on Aging, by increasing the number of alternate members from two to three, so that Section 12-23 reads as follows:

> There shall be established a Council on Aging for the purpose of carrying out programs designed to meet the problems of the aging in coordination with state and federal agencies. Said Council shall consist of from seven to 11 members and three alternates, appointed by the Select Board for a term of three years, unless the appointment is to fill the unexpired term of a retiring member. At least five members shall be over the age of 60 at the time of their appointment. The Council shall annually elect a Chairman and a Secretary from its membership and shall report the fact to the Town Clerk.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this article would change the by-law concerning the board of the Council on Aging by increasing the number of alternate members from two (2) to three (3).

Currently, the COA board is comprised of eleven (11) full members and two (2) alternates, appointed by the Select Board to three-year terms. The COA board, through the Select Board, has requested the addition of one alternate slot in order to facilitate the business of the board. The Finance Committee is glad to see that there is sufficient interest from residents to justify this expansion, and therefore supports this effort.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend Chapter 12, Article VII, Section 12-23 of the General Bylaws, Council on Aging, by increasing the number of alternate members from two to three, so that Section 12-23 reads as follows: There shall be established a Council on Aging for the purpose of carrying out programs designed to meet the problems of the aging in coordination with state and federal agencies. Said Council shall consist of from seven to 11 members and three alternates, appointed by the

Select Board for a term of three years, unless the appointment is to fill the unexpired term of a retiring member. At least five members shall be over the age of 60 at the time of their appointment. The Council shall annually elect a Chairman and a Secretary from its membership and shall report the fact to the Town Clerk.

Article 24: **Transfer the Care and Custody of the Rattlesnake Hill Property from Select Board to Conservation Commission and Authorize Notice and Order of Taking**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, §15A, to authorize the Select Board to transfer to the Conservation Commission the care, custody, management, and control of the following parcels of land for conservation purposes, for the protection and management of natural resources, and for the protection of the watershed resources of the Town of Sharon, in perpetuity, allowing thereon passive recreation only, under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, §8C as it may hereafter be amended, and of Amended Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, and to authorize the Select Board to execute and record in the Registry of Deeds all documents that are necessary to effectuate this transfer:

> The land shown as Remaining Lot 1 Area, containing 14,031,758 square feet of land, more or less, on the plan entitled "Approval Not Required Plan of Land, Brickstone Properties, Inc.," which plan was recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 689, Pages 28, 29 & 30, and a second parcel being shown on said plan as "Proposed Lot E," containing 290,019 square feet of land, more or less, and comprised of the lots shown as Map 35, Lot 12, & Map 26, Lots 9, 10 & 11, said premises being more completely described in the deed to the Town referenced below.
>
> Said premises being the same conveyed to the Town by deed of Brickstone Sharon, LLC dated February 27, 2020 and recorded in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds in Book 37631, Page 568 (the "Rattlesnake Hill property").

And further, to authorize the Select Board to do a confirmatory taking by eminent domain of the Rattlesnake Hill property, to cure and hence remove any cloud on title to said property that may have arisen or if any there be and to clarify the boundaries thereof in order to confirm title in the name of the Town of Sharon;

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this Article would:

1. Transfer the care and custody of Rattlesnake Hill from the Select Board to the Sharon Conservation Commission.
2. Authorize Notice and Order of Taking for Rattlesnake Hill to meet requirements for the conservation restriction under Article 97 of the Commonwealth Constitution assuring preservation in perpetuity.

At the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting, voters approved the Town purchase of Rattlesnake Hill, a 337± acre parcel located off of Mountain Street in Sharon, for "open space purposes." Under the purchase agreement, Brickstone Sharon, LLC would retain four (4) single family Form A lots located along Mountain Street with the remainder of the 337 acres to be held by the Town of Sharon for "conservation purposes."

The land would be subject to a conservation restriction under Article 97 of the Commonwealth Constitution assuring preservation in perpetuity.

The Notice and Order of Taking is a statutory process under eminent domain that is in keeping with a customary practice of cities and towns as part of the land acquisition process. By law, a "taking" by a town generally cures title defects. As part of the acquisition we are also getting a full waiver from the seller of any and all defects in the process, as well as a waiver of the absence of the provision for damages.

Under Town by-laws, land acquired by Sharon is under the "care and custody" of the Select Board unless or until transferred to another Town authority. As property under a conservation restriction, Rattlesnake Hill belongs under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town authorize the Select Board to transfer to the Conservation Commission the care, custody, management, and control of the following parcels of land for conservation purposes, for the protection and management of natural resources, and for the protection of the watershed resources of the Town of Sharon, in perpetuity, allowing thereon passive recreation only, under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, §8C as it may hereafter be amended, and of Amended Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, and to authorize the Select Board to execute and record in the Registry of Deeds all documents that are necessary to effectuate this transfer:

The land shown as Remaining Lot 1 Area, containing 14,031,758 square feet of land, more or less, on the plan entitled "Approval Not Required Plan of Land, Brickstone Properties, Inc.," which plan was recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 689, Pages 28, 29 & 30, and a second parcel being shown on said plan as "Proposed Lot E," containing 290,019 square feet of land, more or less, and comprised of the lots shown as Map 35, Lot 12, & Map 26, Lots 9, 10 & 11, said premises being more completely described in the deed to the Town referenced below.

Said premises being the same conveyed to the Town by deed of Brickstone Sharon, LLC dated February 27, 2020 and recorded in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds in Book 37631, Page 568 (the "Rattlesnake Hill property").

That the Town authorize the Select Board to do a confirmatory taking by eminent domain of the Rattlesnake Hill property, to cure and hence remove any cloud on title to said property that may have arisen or if any there be and to clarify the boundaries thereof in order to confirm title in the name of the Town of Sharon.

Article 25: Grant to Mass Audubon a Conservation Restriction on Land Known as Inter Lochen Park on Rattlesnake Hill

Sponsored by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the following parcels of land from the board or department that currently has custody of such land, held for their current purposes to the Conservation Commission for the purpose of granting to Mass Audubon a permanent conservation restriction on such parcels, identified and as shown on the Sharon Assessors Maps as:

Map 54, Parcel 18, containing 57 acres of land, more or less
Map 43, Parcel 15, containing 46.95 acres of land, more or less
Map 64, Parcel 64, containing 14.50 acres of land, more or less
Map 55, Parcel 10, containing 70.00 acres of land, more or less
Map 53, Parcel 73, containing 3.75 acres of land, more or less

Such land, or portions thereof, being known as Inter Lochen Park.

And further, to authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for approval and to seek the assent and/or approval of the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, the Secretary of the Executive Office of Communities and Development and such other state agencies or officials as may be required to permit such transfer and conveyance.

And further to authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, to execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Inter Lochen Park Context

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
An affirmative vote under this Article would transfer custody of the 192± acre property known as Inter Lochen Park to the Conservation Commission for the purpose of granting a conservation restriction to Mass Audubon. This property is adjacent to the 330± acre Rattlesnake Hill property that has been purchased from Brickstone Sharon, LLC.

Inter Lochen Park will consist of five adjacent parcels: the original 70 acres was taken by the Town for unpaid taxes (1571 Bay Road), the Elson land, nearest to mountain Street, which the Conservation Commission purchased in the mid-1980s (276 Mountain Street), three parcels of land that went to the Conservation Commission as part of the Hampton Road subdivision (64 Eisenhower Drive, 252R Mountain Street, and 226 Hampton Road).

Map	Parcel Number	Acreage (more or less)
Map 54	Parcel 18	57 acres of land
Map 43,	Parcel 15	46.95 acres of land
Map 64	Parcel 64	14.50 acres of land
Map 55	Parcel 10	70.00 acres of land
Map 53	Parcel 73	3.75 acres of land

In exchange for contributing $150,000 toward the Town purchase of the Rattlesnake Hill parcel, Mass Audubon would be granted a conservation restriction on the 192± acres of Inter Lochen Park to assure that it is fully protected under Article 97. As a non-profit, Mass Audubon is required to demonstrate something in exchange for funds expended; assuring the conservation restriction to Inter Lochen Park would meet that requirement.

Viewed overall, these properties (Inter Lochen Park, Rattlesnake Hill, and Borderland State Park) will create a wildlife corridor that is about 2,400 acres in total; a unique opportunity for eastern Massachusetts. Mass Audubon felt the conservation restriction would be an appropriate exchange for the contribution as well as a way of supporting the Town and community.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town transfer the care, custody, management and control of the following parcels of land from the board or department that currently has custody of such land, held for their current purposes to the Conservation Commission for the purpose of granting to Mass Audubon a permanent conservation restriction on such parcels, identified and as shown on the Sharon Assessors Maps as:

Map 54, Parcel 18, containing 57 acres of land, more or less
Map 43, Parcel 15, containing 46.95 acres of land, more or less
Map 64, Parcel 64, containing 14.50 acres of land, more or less
Map 55, Parcel 10, containing 70.00 acres of land, more or less
Map 53, Parcel 73, containing 3.75 acres of land, more or less

Such land, or portions thereof, being known as Inter Lochen Park.

That the Town authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for approval and to seek the assent and/or approval of the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, the Secretary of the Executive Office of Communities and Development and such other state agencies or officials as may be required to permit such transfer and conveyance.

That the Town authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, to execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

Article 26: **General Bylaw Change & Zoning Bylaw Change: Expansion of Business Uses & Revision of Uses within Water Resource Protection District for Sharon Gallery**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Sharon MA Code, Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 Groundwater Protection as Last Amended though March 2014" by amending "§ 160-5 Restriction on storage of waste materials, chemicals and petroleum products." as follows:

In the first paragraph, insert the words "and the storage and dispensing of liquid" after the word "chemicals" and replace paragraphs "D" and "E" as follows:

"§ 160-5 Restriction on storage of waste materials, chemicals and petroleum products."
The storage of certain waste materials, chemicals and the storage and dispensing of liquid petroleum products is prohibited except in accordance with the following requirements.

D. Storage of liquid hazardous materials is prohibited unless the materials are either in a freestanding container within a building, in a freestanding covered container outdoors above ground level with spill containment capacity of 100% of the volume, stored, or unless the materials are either gasoline or diesel fuel and are stored within Business District D either below grade in a double wall non-metal tank with both USEPA compliant interstitial leak detection or above grade in tank with leak detection and said tanks are installed within a concrete vault or a concrete containment structure with spill containment capacity of 100% of the volume stored, and with an internal coating inert to petroleum products. Further, gasoline and diesel fuel storage shall have systems to monitor for vapor in soil or to monitor for contamination in groundwater.

E. Storage of any type of liquid petroleum products is prohibited, unless any of the following applies:

(1) The products are incidental to normal household use, including outdoor maintenance, or for the heating of a structure;

(2) Waste oil retention facilities;

(3) Emergency generators;

(4) Treatment works in compliance with MGL c. 21E and 310 CMR 40.000 designed for the restoration of contaminated ground or surface waters; and.

(5) Gasoline and diesel fuel for retail sale within Business District D; so long as the Dispensing systems for gasoline and diesel fuel are comprised of double wall piping with both USEPA compliant interstitial leak detection and monitoring for vapor in soil or monitoring for contamination in groundwater.

Or take any other action thereto.

And

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Sharon MA Code, Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 275 Zoning as Last Amended though March 2014" by amending certain sections thereof as follows:

REVISE SUBSECTION 2326 L.

Revise Subsection "l. In Business District D only, the following" of Section "2326. Uses and Accessory Uses Permitted by Special Permit" by adding a new subparagraph "(10)." following subparagraph (9) thereof as follows:

(10) Retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel accessory to retail stores.

REVISE SUBSECTIONS 4531 g. and l.

Revise Subsection 4531 g. and l. of Section "4531. Prohibited Uses and Activities within a Water Resource Protection District, the following uses and activities are specifically prohibited:" by adding a new phrase as follows:

g. Any underground fuel storage or other storage tanks or collection pits, including any tanks or collection pits partially below mean ground elevation; except as provided for in Section 4532 e.

l. Storage and/or sale of petroleum or other refined petroleum products, except within a building which it will heat; except in quantities reasonably associated with normal household use; and except as provided for in Section 4532 e.

REVISE SUBSECTION 4532

Revise Subsection 4532 Special Permit Uses within a Water Resource Protection District by adding a new sub-paragraph "e." thereto as follows:

e. In Business District D, the following:

(1) Retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel accessory to retail stores;

(2) Storage of gasoline and diesel fuel accessory to retail stores in the following:
a. underground storage tanks; or
b. storage tanks partially below mean ground elevation; or
c. above ground storage tanks.
Said storage tanks shall comply with Article XX; Town of Sharon MA Code Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 – 5D.

Or take any other action thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article would amend two different provisions of the Bylaws of the Town of Sharon. First, it would amend § 160-5 of the Town of Sharon, MA Code, Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 Groundwater Protection to allow for the storage and retail sale of gasoline and/or diesel fuel within Business District D with significant restrictions on said storage and sale as described further below. Second, it would amend §2326L, §§4531 g. and l, and §4532 of the Town of Sharon, MA Code, Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 275 Zoning – to allow for the storage and retail sale of gasoline and/or diesel fuel within Business District D as an accessory use to allowable uses under the current Business District D with significant restrictions on said storage and retail sale as described further below.

Background

This Article relates to the Business D zoning district which includes the planned development at Sharon Gallery (formerly Sharon Commons). The Town of Sharon and the past and current owners of the land upon which Sharon Gallery is planned for have been working together for over 13 years to create a meaningful commercial and mixed development at the Sharon Gallery site in Business District D located off South Main Street across from Shaw's Plaza. Most recently, in the fall of 2017, a Special Town Meeting approved modifications to Business District D by-law provisions to allow up to 225 residential apartment or condominium units to be built with several restrictions, to delete specific provisions designed for a "life-style" mall that were no longer commercially viable, to allow for new commercial uses suitable for the Sharon Gallery development (either as of right or with a special permit), and to add certain environmentally friendly provisions (including undertaking best efforts to comply with Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) principles, promotion of water conservation, minimizing auto traffic, and minimizing blue light emission).

Supported by the modifications approved by the Town in 2017, Sharon Gallery has already secured Market Basket as a potential anchor tenant for the front section of development closest to South Main Street and has been close to securing a needed second anchor tenant. Unfortunately, the recent economic downturn, particularly in the retail sector and hotel sector, has made it more difficult for Sharon Gallery to secure another anchor tenant. Recently, however, Sharon Gallery approached the Town of Sharon with significant interest from a large membership wholesale chain identified as a "BJ's Wholesale Club-Like" anchor store. This new anchor tenant requires a gas station component for gasoline and diesel sales and storage. As a result of that requirement and due to the very limited availability of or interest by other large anchor tenants needed to support the viability of the development, Sharon Gallery has requested the changes detailed below.

Development of this property in a manner consistent with the current General and Zoning By-Laws, with the amendments requested at this Town Meeting, would substantially increase the commercial tax base of the Town.

Proposed By Law Changes - Chapter 160

The proposed changes in this Article would specifically amend §160-5 of the Town of Sharon MA Code, Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 Groundwater Protection which currently prohibits the storage of liquid hazardous materials unless the materials are either in a freestanding container within a building, outdoors, or in a freestanding covered container above-ground level with spill containment capacity of 100% of the volume, stored. Specifically, the amendment would modify §160-5 to also allow for the underground storage of only gasoline or diesel fuel and, only if such gasoline and/or diesel fuel are stored within Business District D either below grade in a double wall non-metal tank with both USEPA compliant interstitial leak detection or above grade in tank with leak detection and said tanks are installed within a concrete vault or a concrete containment structure with spill containment capacity of 100% of the volume stored, and with an internal coating inert to petroleum products. Further, the

amendments require that any such gasoline and diesel fuel storage shall have systems to monitor for vapor in soil or to monitor for contamination in groundwater. The amendment also provides for the retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel within Business District D only so long as the dispensing systems for gasoline and diesel fuel are comprised of double wall piping with both USEPA compliant interstitial leak detection and monitoring for vapor in soil or monitoring for contamination in groundwater. These protections meet or exceed current state and federal applicable protection for surface and ground water contamination from the storage and dispensing of gasoline and diesel fuel.

Under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, gas stations with the same type of protections as those required by this amendment are allowed in water protection areas designated as Zone 2 by the Commonwealth, including the land where Sharon Gallery is located.

While the construction and business activity presented by the Sharon Gallery are outside of the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission because they are outside of the buffer zone of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW), Sharon Gallery has conferred with the Conservation Commission requiring any concerns and modified the proposed article to include the possibility of above ground storage as an option at the request of the Conservation Commission. Also, it is important to note that approval of this article will only amend the Town's By Laws relating to the storage and retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel in Business District D. Approval of this article will not approve the project, and any proposed development will be subject to Planning Board review and approval.

Proposed By Law Changes – Chapter 275

It is important to emphasize that the proposed amendment to Chapter 275 would only allow the storage and retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel as an accessory use to a retail store. As such, the proposed amendment would not allow for the permitting and licensing of a gas station only. Specifically, §2326L which governs uses and accessory uses permitted by special permit is being amended to add a subparagraph 10 to include "retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel accessory to retail stores." In addition, the proposed changes to §§4531 g. and l and §4532 e taken together would only permit the Special Permit Uses within a Water Resource Protection in Business District D if the following conditions are met: (1) the retail sale of gasoline and diesel fuel must be accessory to retail stores, (2) the storage of gasoline and diesel fuel accessory to retail stores must in either underground storage tanks, storage tanks partially below mean ground elevation, or above ground storage tanks, and (3) all such storage tanks must comply with the Town of Sharon MA Code Division 1: Bylaws, Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 – 5D as amended by this article.

We note that Sharon Zoning By-Laws already include gas stations with underground storage tanks in Business District B (where the Heights and Shaw's Plazas are located) as a permitted use. There are currently two gas stations in Sharon and both are located in residential neighborhoods, not in Business District B.

The Finance Committee believes that approval of this Article will allow for substantial environmental protections for the Town, while facilitating the much needed development of Sharon Gallery with substantial economic and other benefits to the Town.

The Planning Board is holding its first hearing on this Article on September 24, 2020 and thus, as of the date of this report by the Finance Committee, had not yet voted on this Article.

The Select Board voted 2-0-1 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town amend its General Bylaws Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 160 Groundwater Protection as Last Amended though March 2014, exactly as printed on pages 55 through 56 of the warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or take any other action relative thereto."

and

That the Town amend its Zoning Bylaws Part II: General Legislation, Chapter 275 Zoning as Last Amended though March 2014, exactly as printed on pages 55 through 56 of the warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or take any other action relative thereto."

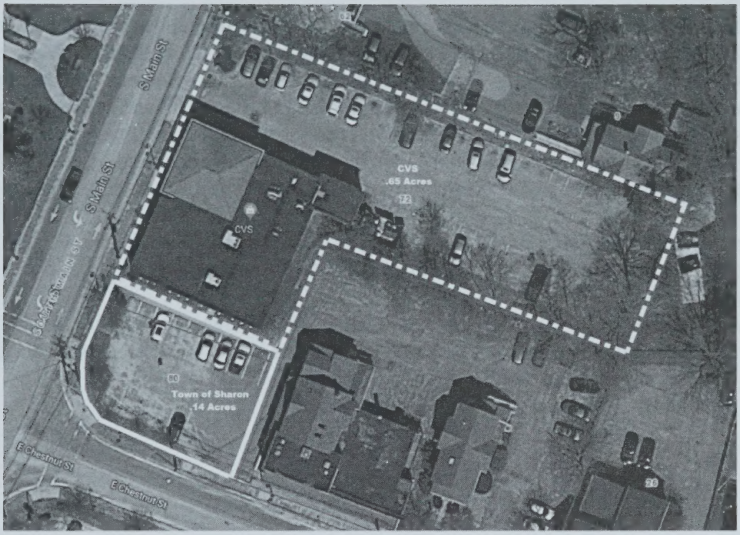
Article 27: **Transfer the Care, Custody and Control & Sell/Convey/Lease/Dispose of 80 South Main Street**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 40, section 15A of the General Laws, to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel of land known as 80 South Main Street, Sharon, Massachusetts granted to the Town by deed of Canton Institution For Savings dated August 27, 1945, recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 2554, Page 162 and identified on the Town of Sharon Assessors Map as Parcel ID 091243000, or as the same may be more particularly described, the "parcel" from the Select Board which has determined that said parcel is no longer needed for its current use as a parking facility to the Select Board for the purposes set forth in the following paragraph.

And further to authorize the Select Board to sell, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of said parcel, or any portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions that the Select Board deems appropriate.

And further to authorize the Select Board and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing, or act in any way relative thereto.



FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this article will allow the disposition of the parcel of land known as 80 South Main Street, Sharon, Massachusetts, which the Select Board has determined is no longer needed for its current use as a parking facility. The intent of this article is to allow the Select Board to sell the parcel to the owner of the CVS located at 66 South Main Street, which would provide an option for expansion of the CVS and would increase taxes paid on the property in addition to the land acquisition revenue to the Town. The process to increase the size of the CVS at 66 South Main Street requires site plan approval by land use boards; if the redevelopment isn't approved, the land will be retained.

Further, an affirmative vote of this article will authorize the Select Board and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the disposition.

The parcel at 80 South Main Street is a parking lot currently used as overflow parking by individuals visiting the CVS at 66 South Main Street or one of the businesses at 10 East Chestnut Street. As noted above, the town has no current use for the parcel and at about 4,900 square feet is too small to support a building with any parking. The parcel currently brings no revenue to the town and the sale of this parcel would benefit the town through the payment of property taxes.

The majority of Finance Committee members felt that the sale of this parcel and the subsequent increase in taxes paid would benefit the town. There was a discussion regarding the certainty of the expansion of the CVS and it was communicated to the Finance Committee that there would be a letter of intent ("LOI") regarding the sale of the parcel that would include input/approval from land use boards and other groups as appropriate, as well as agreement from CVS that the expansion would go forward as a condition of sale.

The Select Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town vote, pursuant to Chapter 40, section 15A of the General Laws, to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel of land known as 80 South Main Street, Sharon, Massachusetts granted to the Town by deed of Canton Institution For Savings dated August 27, 1945, recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 2554, Page 162 and identified on the Town of Sharon Assessors Map as Parcel ID 091243000, or as the same may be more particularly described, the "parcel" from the Select Board which has determined that said parcel is no longer needed for its current use as a parking facility to the Select Board for the purposes set forth in the following paragraph.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to sell, convey, lease or otherwise dispose of said parcel, or any portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions that the Select Board deems appropriate.

That the Town authorize the Select Board and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting. And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same in accordance with the Town by-laws.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of September, A.D., 2020

SELECT BOARD, TOWN OF SHARON

Emily E. Smith-Lee, Chair

William A. Heitin, Clerk

Hanna R. Switlekowski

A True Copy: John Ford, Constable
Sharon, Massachusetts
Dated: September 23, 2020

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SHARON, MA 02067

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